



DARK NIGHTS

1

ZEDDEE METAL MULTIVERSE'S END



AGES 13+

TYNION IV
GEDEON
SPICER

**IN A WEB OF CONSPIRACIES,
WHO IS THE MAN
BEHIND THE MASK?**

RORSCHACH

TOM KING JORGE FORNÉS DAVE STEWART

12 ISSUES

AGES 17+



TM & © DC

EARTH-3.
CENTROPOLIS.
THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERIKA.

MULTIVERSE'S END

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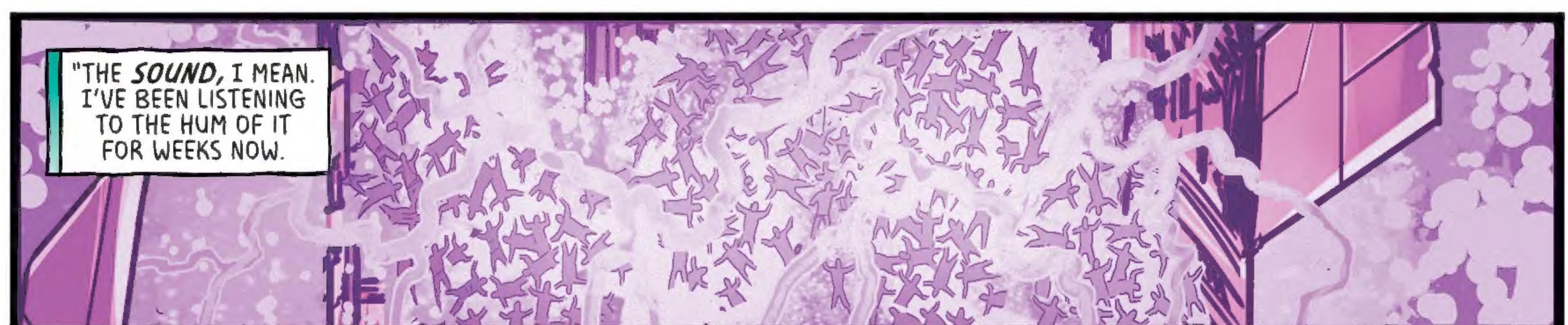
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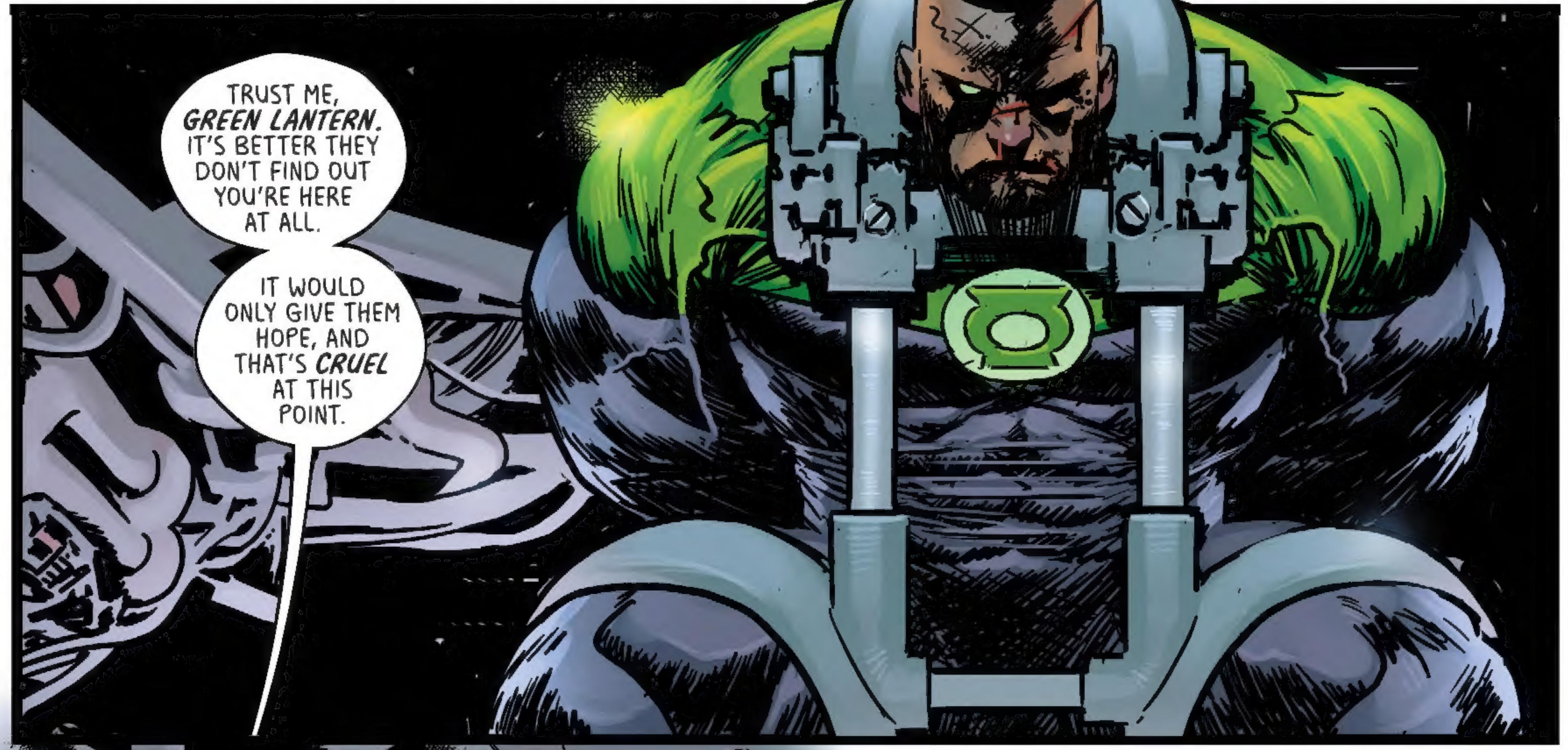
KATIE KUBERT
EDITOR

"IT'S BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT?"





BUT OF COURSE,
THEY'RE MUCH TOO
STUPID TO UNDERSTAND
THEY'VE STEPPED
THROUGH TO THE
DARK SIDE OF THE
MIRROR.



TRUST ME,
GREEN LANTERN,
IT'S BETTER THEY
DON'T FIND OUT
YOU'RE HERE
AT ALL.

IT WOULD
ONLY GIVE THEM
HOPE, AND
THAT'S CRUEL
AT THIS
POINT.



GOOD **NEVER**
PROSPERS ON
EARTH-3.

THE CRIME
SYNDICATE HAS
ALWAYS SEEN
TO THAT.



HERE'S
A GOOD
EXAMPLE...



...THIS CHAMPAGNE COSTS
TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS A
BOTTLE. IT WAS A BRIBE
FROM THE PRIME MINISTER
OF SOME HORRIBLE LITTLE
COUNTRY, SO WE
WOULDN'T KILL HIS
FAMILY.

IT DIDN'T
STOP US, OF
COURSE, BUT I
RAIDED HIS WINE
CELLAR AFTER
WE DID THE
JOB.

YOU'RE
DISGUSTING.



AH, IT SPEAKS.
GOOD. I WANT YOU
TO UNDERSTAND HOW
THOROUGHLY YOU'VE
ALREADY **LOST**.

"IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO SEE WHAT YOU HEROES HAVE PLANNED."

"PERPETUA, MOTHER OF THE MULTIVERSE, HAS SIDED WITH THE MONSTERS OF THE DARK MULTIVERSE TO HELP HER RESHAPE ALL OF REALITY IN HER OWN IMAGE."

"THERE ARE TUNING FORKS PLANTED IN THE REMAINING MULTIVERSE WORLDS THAT BEST MATCH HER DARK IDEOLOGY."

EARTH-3.

"EACH OF THOSE TUNING FORKS IS CAPTURING THE PSYCHIC ENERGY OF PEOPLE GATHERED FROM EARTH-0, THE CENTER OF THE MULTIVERSE."

EARTH-X.

"THEIR AGONY KEEPS HER POWERFUL ENOUGH TO FINISH THE JOB, TO DESTROY UNIVERSE AFTER UNIVERSE."

"TO TEAR DOWN THE ORRERY OF WORLDS AND START AGAIN FROM SCRATCH."

EARTH-29.

"FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, THERE ARE ONLY SIX EARTHS LEFT IN THE MULTIVERSE."

EARTH-43.

"AND YOURS HAS BECOME JUST AS TWISTED AS ANY OF OURS."

EARTH-50.

NOW, YOU AND ALL YOUR GRANDSTANDING, CHEST-POUNDING HERO TYPES--YOUR PLAN IS OBVIOUS ENOUGH. YOU'VE MANAGED TO SCROUNGE UP THE LAST HEROES OF THE MULTIVERSE. **JUSTICE INCARNATE.**

YOU'RE TRYING TO SAVE THE PEOPLE OF YOUR WORLD, AND DESTROY THE TUNING FORKS. YOU WANT TO CUT PERPETUA'S POWER RIGHT AT THE SOURCE.

"YOU LED A TEAM HERE, TO EARTH-3, AND I'M BETTING THERE ARE OTHER TEAMS ON EACH OF THE OTHER WORLDS RIGHT NOW. IT'S A SIMULTANEOUS MULTI-EARTH ATTACK."

"BUT IT'S GOING TO FAIL. PERPETUA HAS ALREADY CALLED TO HER ALLIES ON EARTH-0 FOR REINFORCEMENTS. WHEN THEY ARRIVE, THEY'LL WIPE YOU OFF THE FACE OF EXISTENCE."

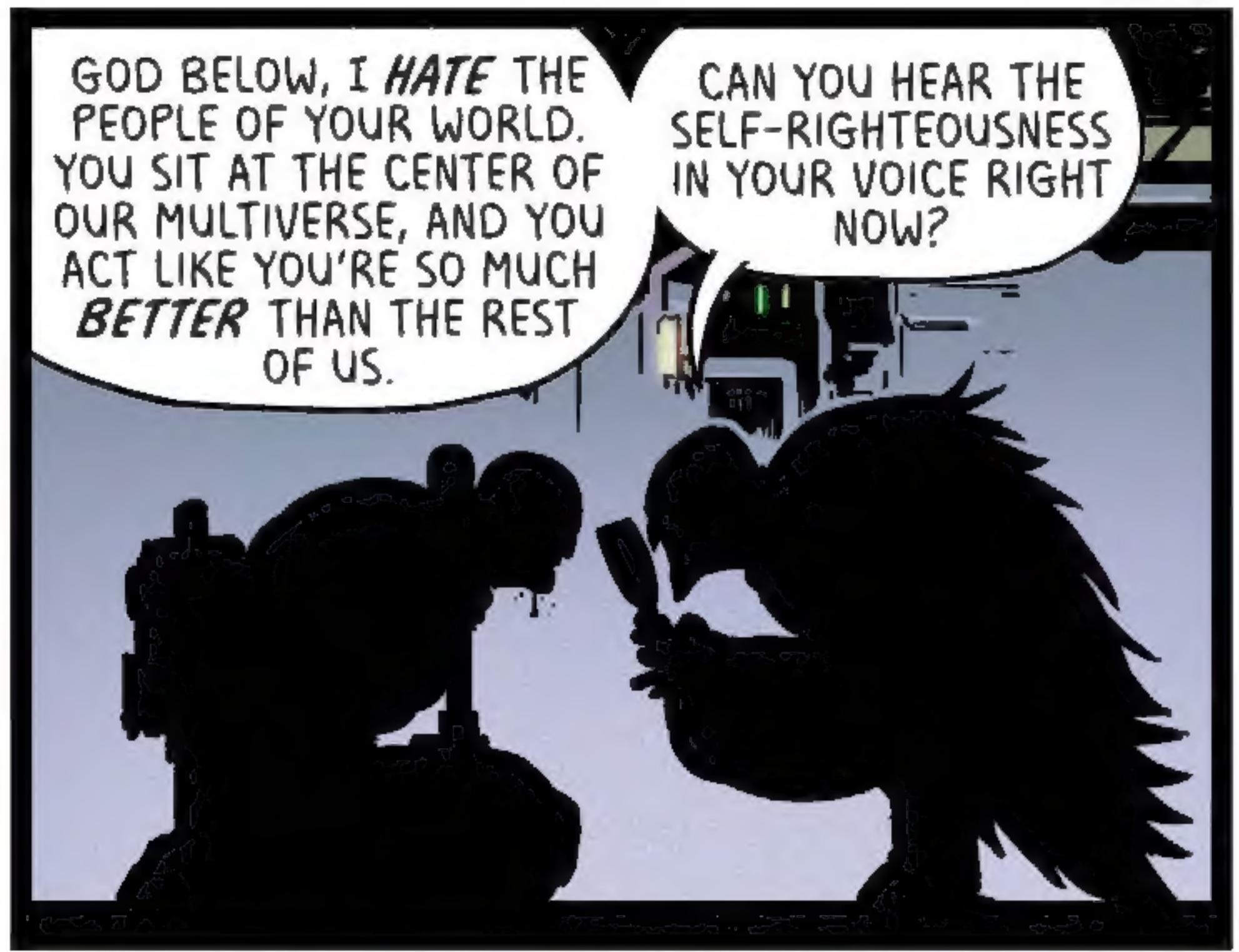
THIS GUN IS FROM QWARD, AT THE HEART OF THE ANTI-MATTER UNIVERSE. ITS YELLOW BULLETS WILL RIP THROUGH YOUR LITTLE RING'S CONSTRUCTS LIKE THEY WERE CREPE PAPER.

IF I KILL YOU NOW, PERPETUA WILL WIN. THE MULTIVERSE AS WE KNOW IT WILL END, AND BE REBORN IN HER IMAGE.

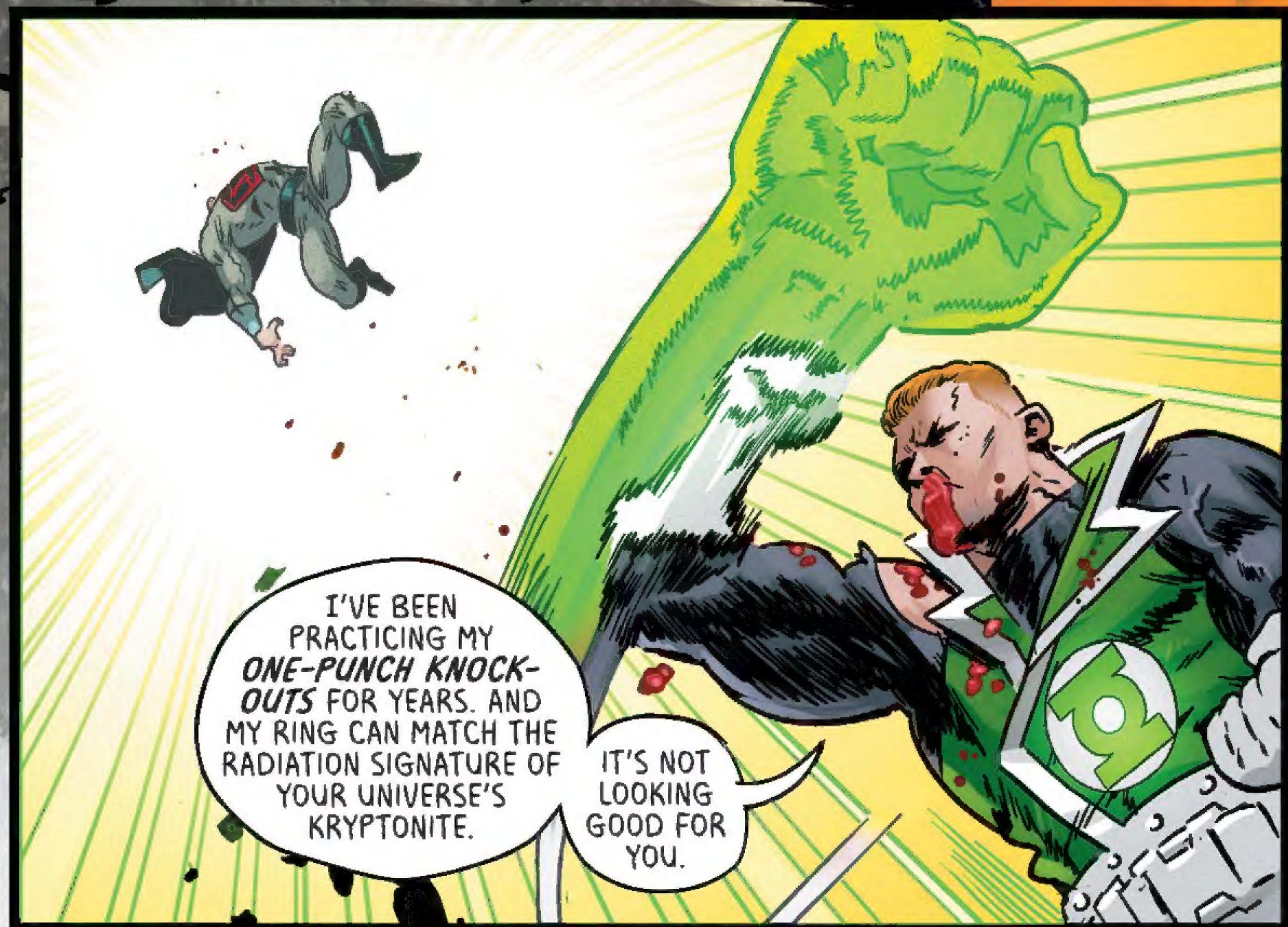
BUT...THAT'S WHERE I HAVE TROUBLE.

I AM THE GREATEST STRATEGIC MIND OF MY WORLD, AND I HAVE A SINKING SUSPICION THAT IF PERPETUA WINS, WE ALL LOSE.

THERE WON'T BE ANY LITTLE PRIME MINISTERS TO BULLY AROUND FOR TWO-THOUSAND-DOLLAR BOTTLES OF CHAMPAGNE.



EARTH-X. DETROIT.



I CAN'T THINK OF A TIME I'VE EVER BEEN THIS SCARED OR TIRED. THE PHYSICS OF MY UNIVERSE ARE DIFFERENT THAN ANY OF YOURS. I FEEL LIKE I'M ON THE EDGE OF COLLAPSE.

BUT BY SOME MIRACLE, EVEN WITH TRILLIONS AND TRILLIONS OF LIVES LOST AT PERPETUA'S HAND, WE'RE STILL STANDING. WE'RE STILL FIGHTING.

WE NEED TO KEEP PUSHING FORWARD WITH ALL OUR MIGHT. BECAUSE AS LONG AS THERE ARE PEOPLE IN PERIL, THIS MULTIVERSE IS GOING TO NEED HEROES.

I KNOW YOU MISS YOUR FRIENDS, AND YOUR FAMILY. AND WE'LL HAVE TIME TO MOURN.

BUT RIGHT NOW A LOT OF INNOCENT PEOPLE NEED KID FLASH TO SAVE THE DAY. AND BY GOSH, I THINK SHE'S GOT IT IN HER TO SAVE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM.

THANKS, CAP.

OKAY. I NEED MORE DOORS OPEN BY THE FOOT OF THE TOWER. IF YOU CAN KEEP THE NAZIS OFF MY BACK, I CAN GET THE REST CLEARED IN JUST ANOTHER TEN MINUTES. THAT HURRIED ENOUGH FOR YOU?

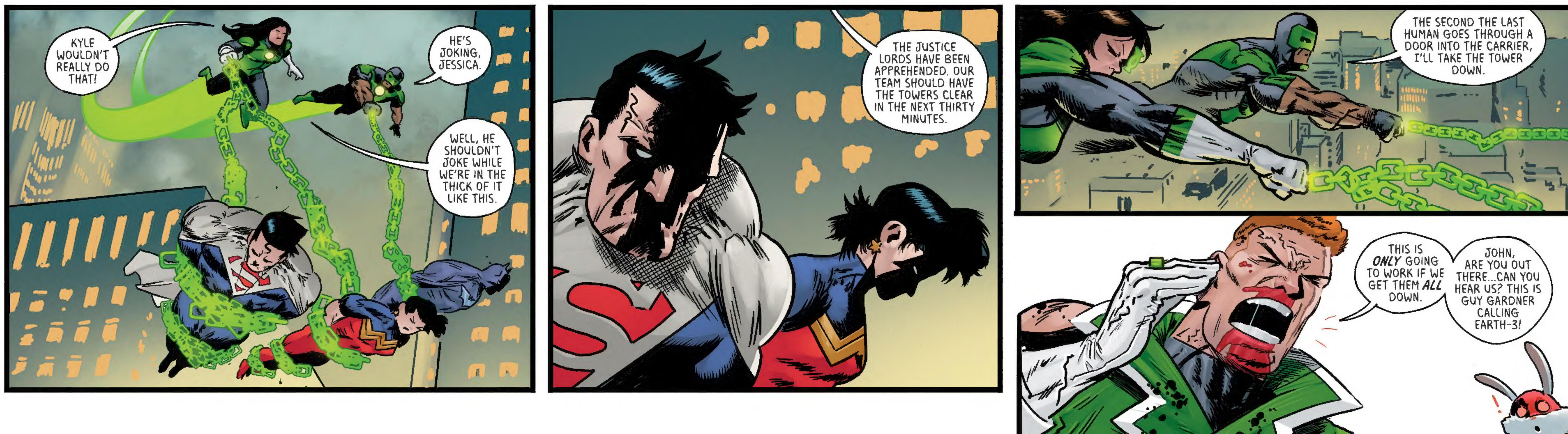
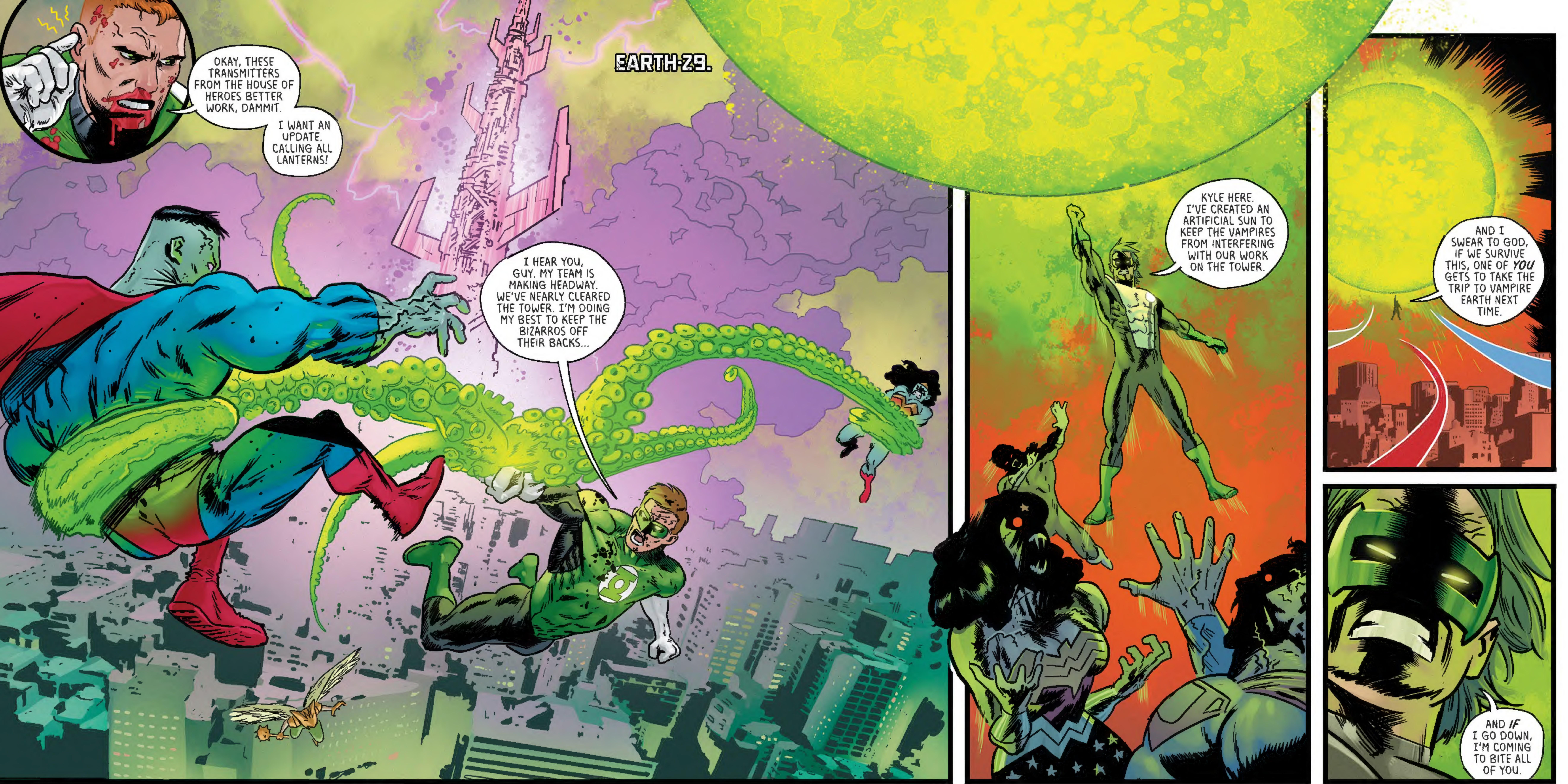
YEAH. THAT'D BE JUST GREAT.

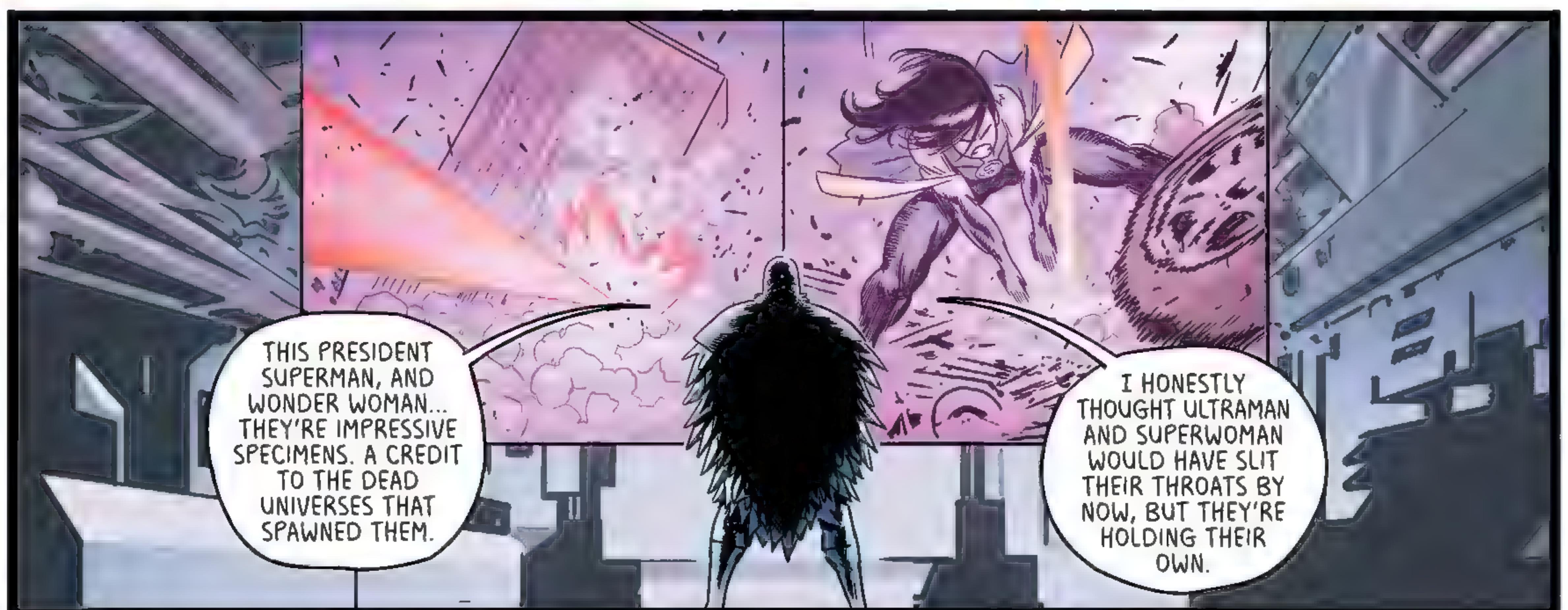
THANKS, CAPTAIN... BUNNY, IS IT?

CAPTAIN CARROT.

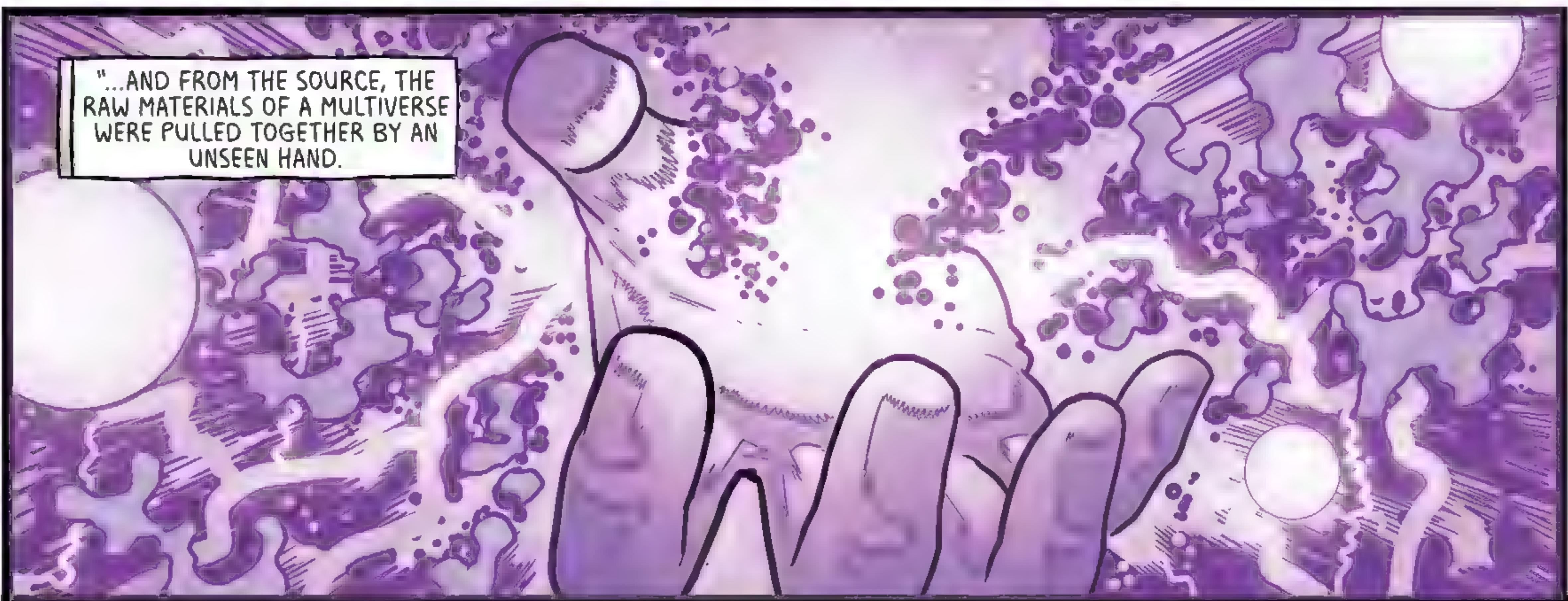
YEAH, YOU DID GREAT, KID. NOW GO PUNCH SOME MORE NAZIS.

SIR, YES, SIR!



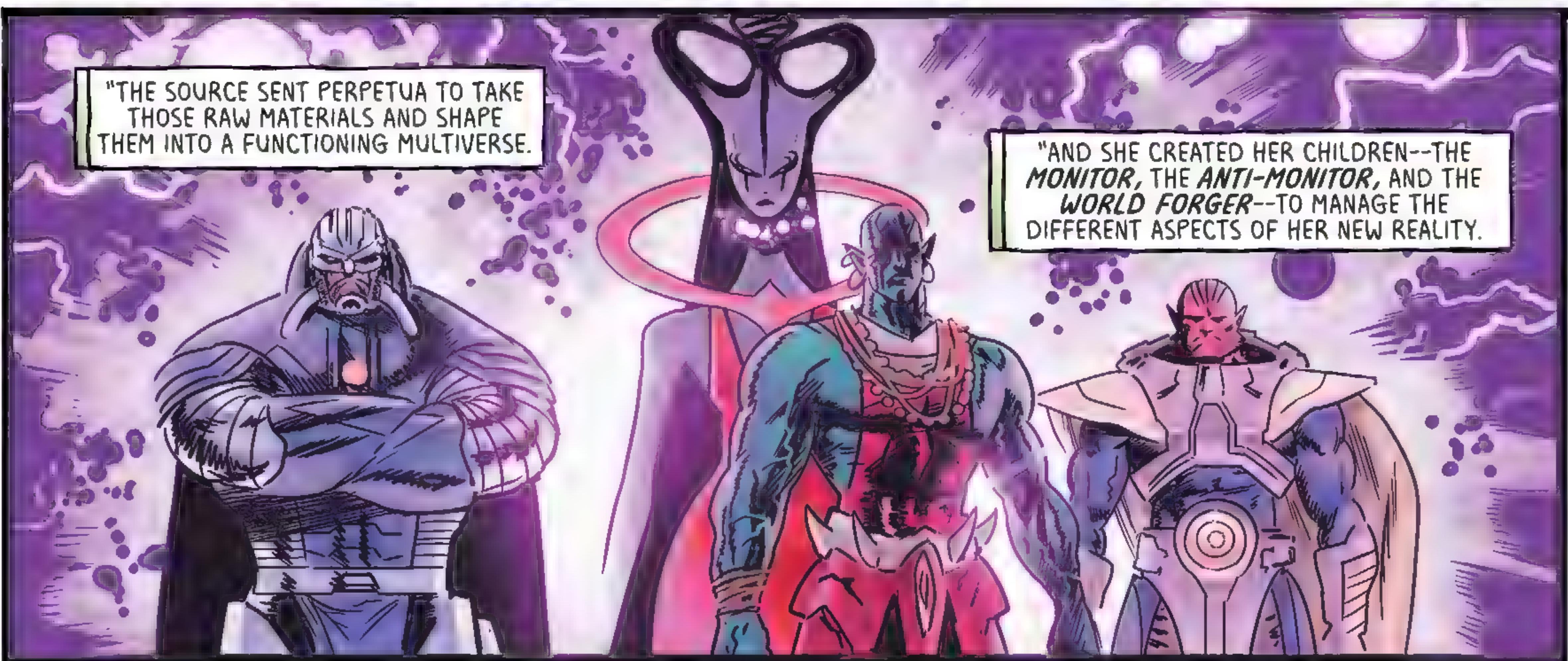


"...AND FROM THE SOURCE, THE RAW MATERIALS OF A MULTIVERSE WERE PULLED TOGETHER BY AN UNSEEN HAND."

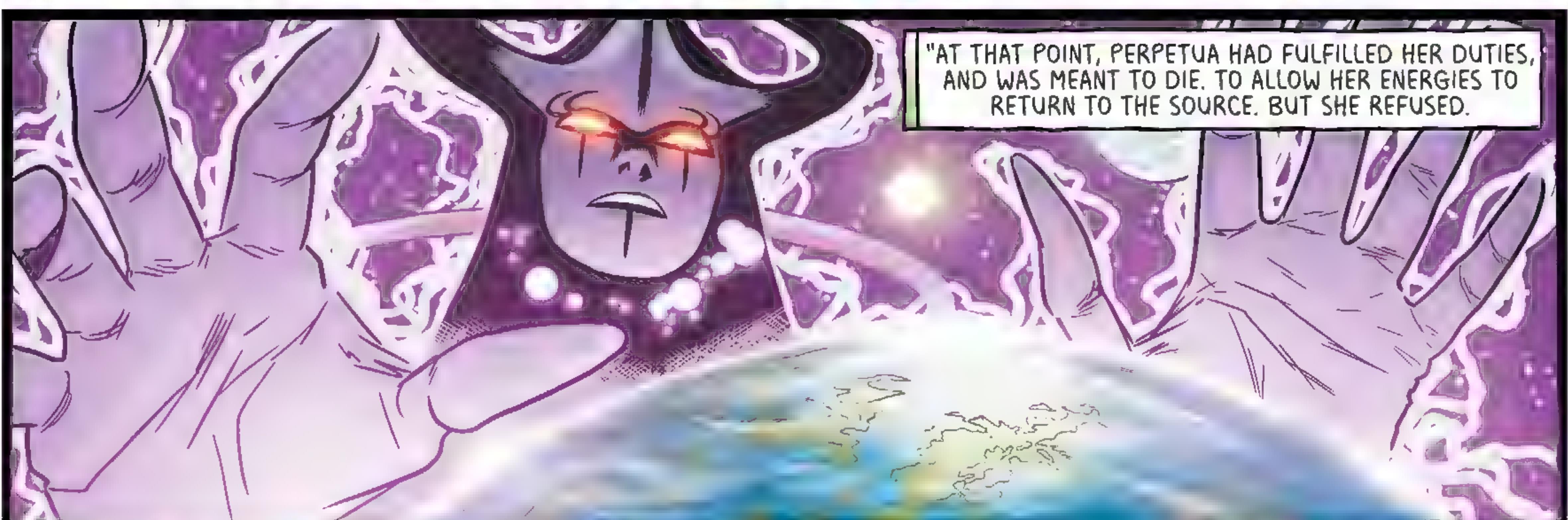


"THE SOURCE SENT PERPETUA TO TAKE THOSE RAW MATERIALS AND SHAPE THEM INTO A FUNCTIONING MULTIVERSE."

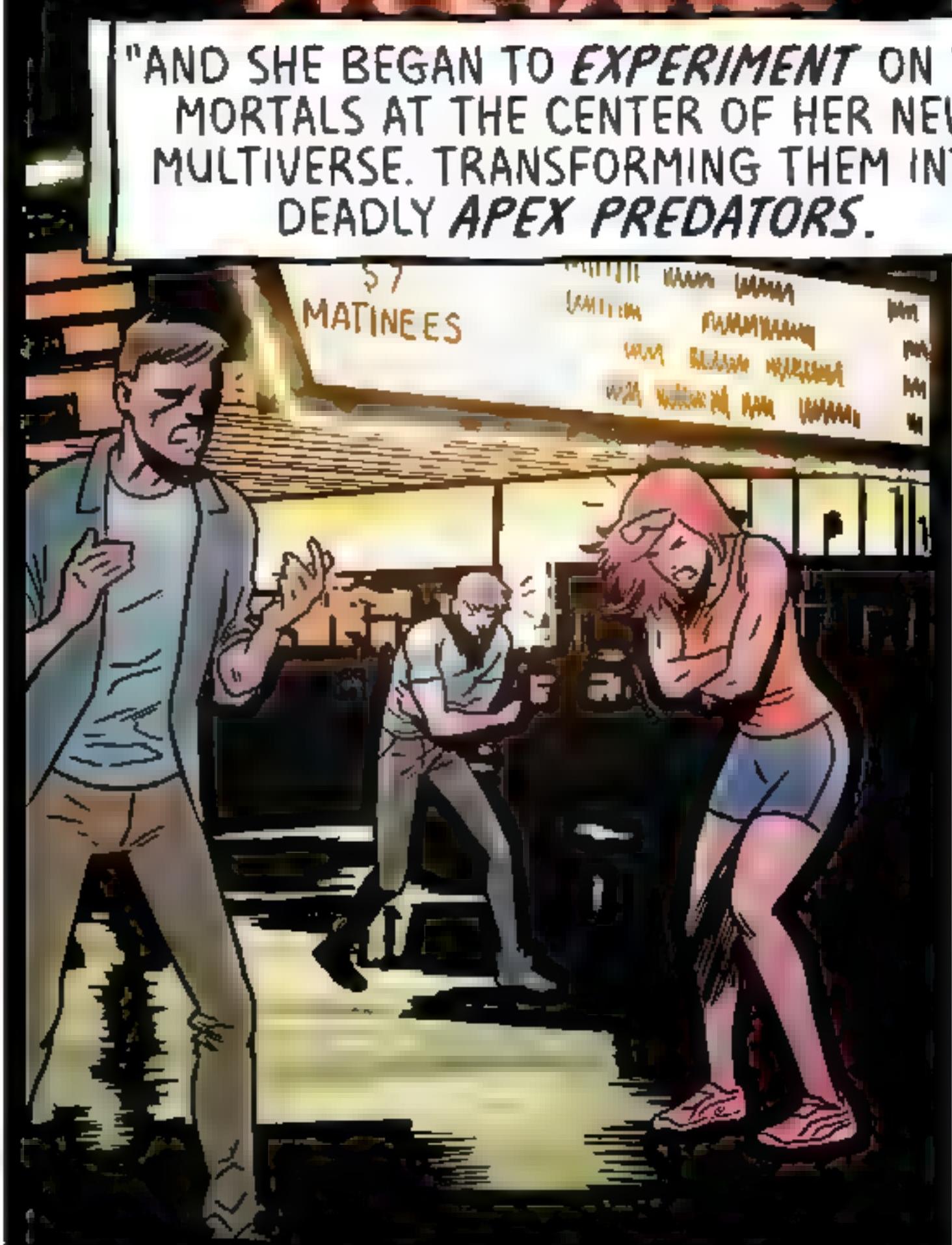
"AND SHE CREATED HER CHILDREN--THE MONITOR, THE ANTI-MONITOR, AND THE WORLD FORGER--TO MANAGE THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF HER NEW REALITY."



"AT THAT POINT, PERPETUA HAD FULFILLED HER DUTIES, AND WAS MEANT TO DIE. TO ALLOW HER ENERGIES TO RETURN TO THE SOURCE. BUT SHE REFUSED."

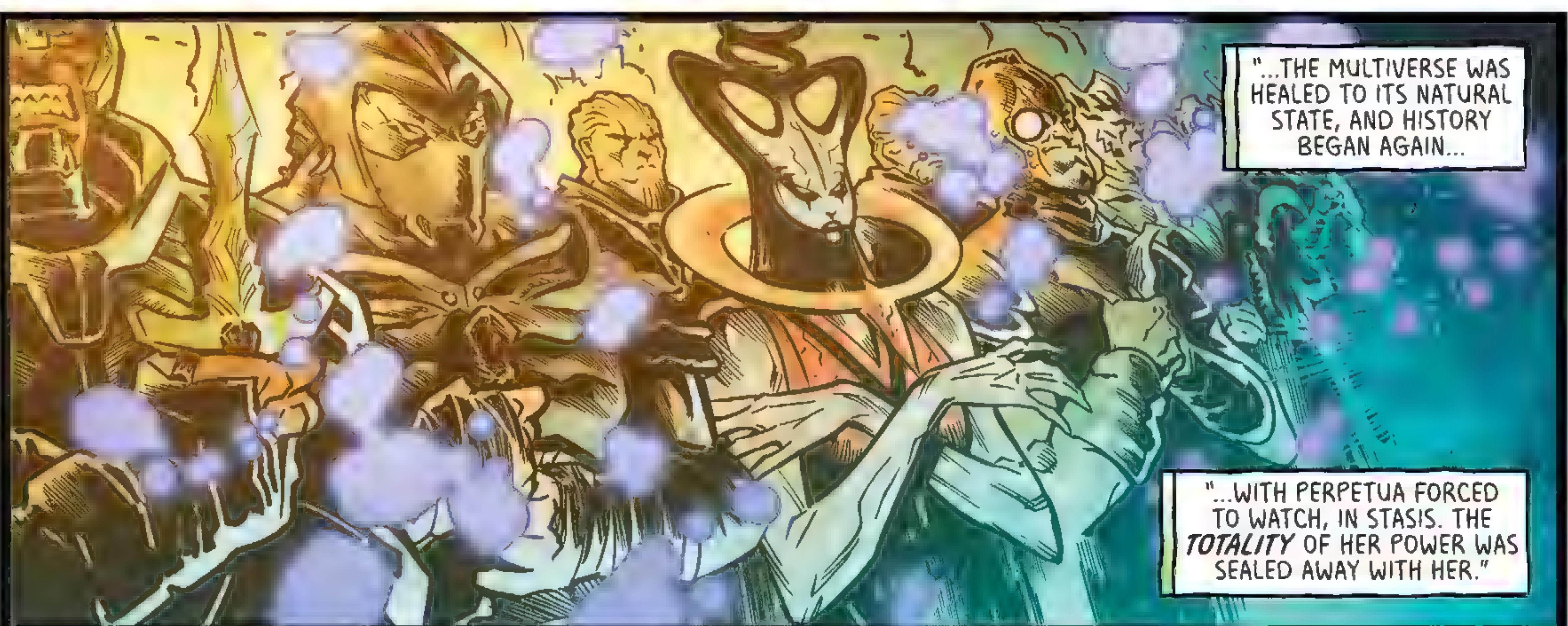
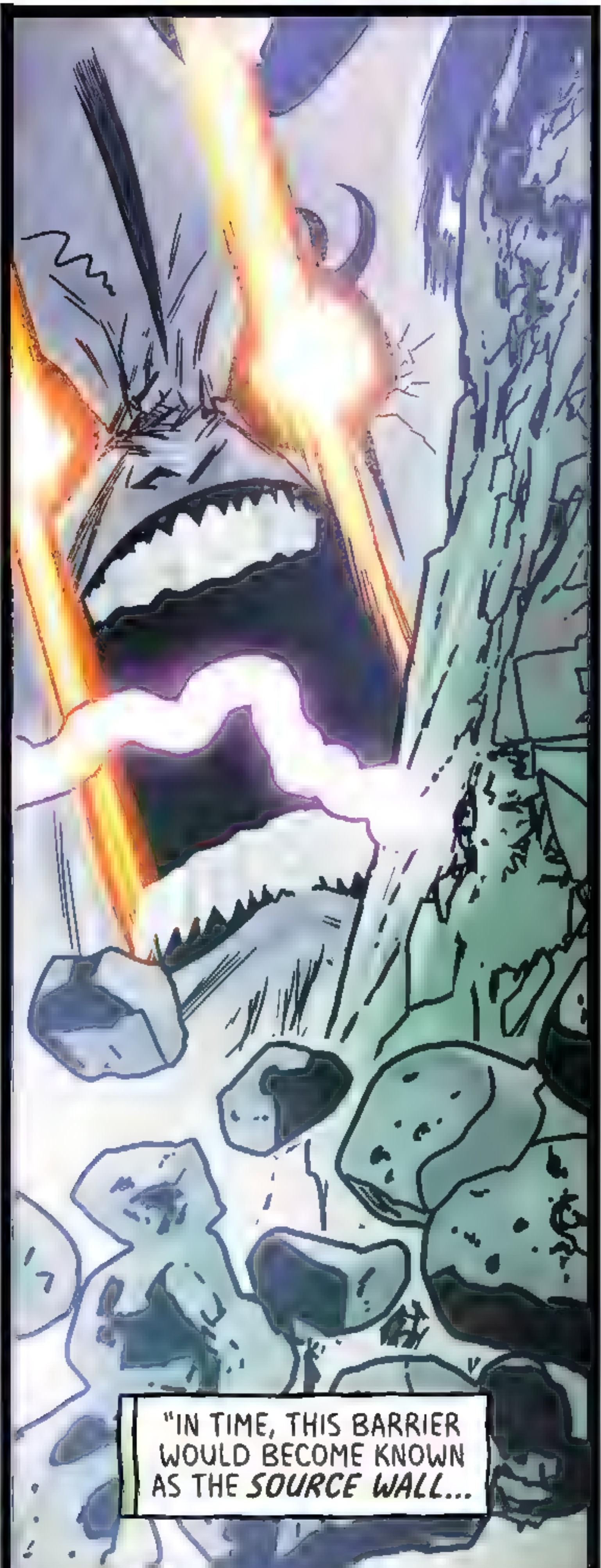
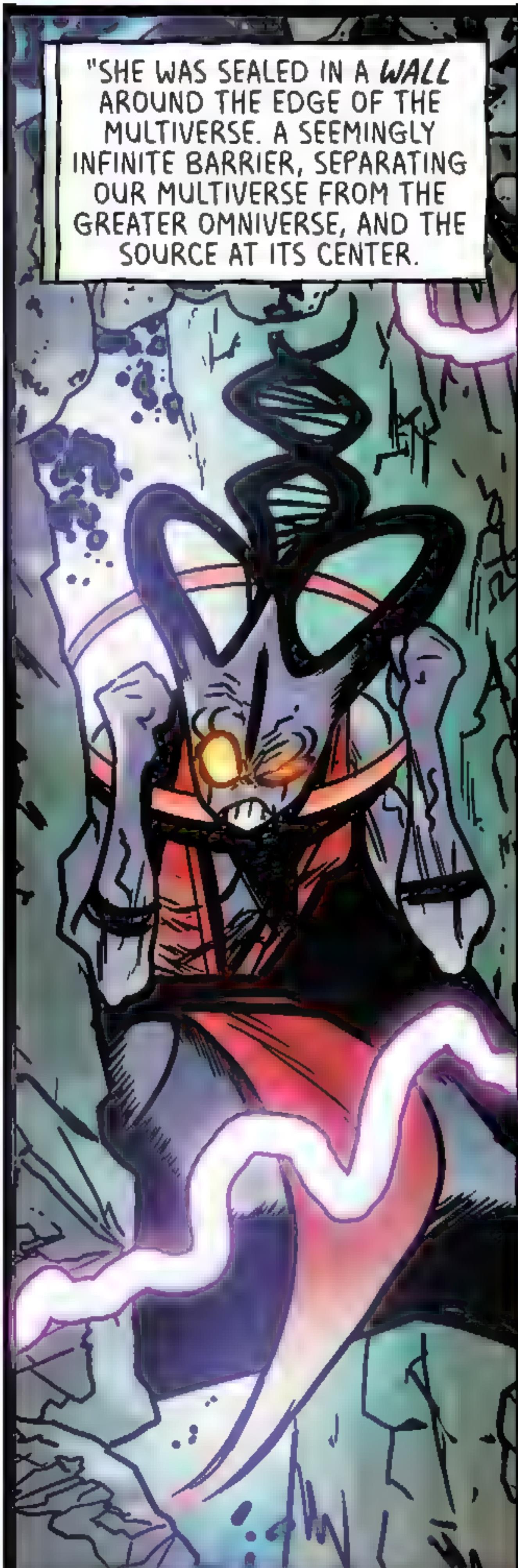
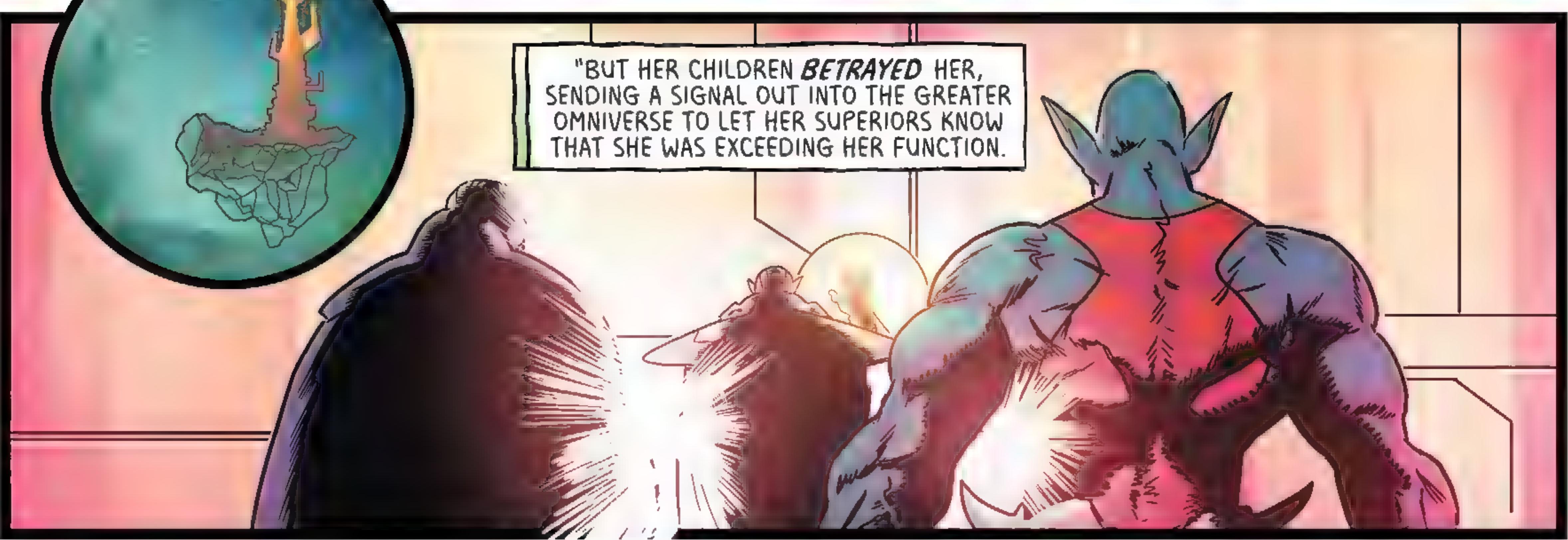


"AND SHE BEGAN TO EXPERIMENT ON THE MORTALS AT THE CENTER OF HER NEW MULTIVERSE. TRANSFORMING THEM INTO DEADLY APEX PREDATORS."



"HER PLAN WAS TO BUILD AN ARMY TO HEAD OFF ANYTHING THE SOURCE MIGHT SEND TO FORCE HER TO GIVE UP HER LIFE AND HER CONTROL OVER REALITY."





"BUT THANKS TO THE TAMPERING OF THE MALTUSIAN SCIENTIST, KRONA...THE MULTIVERSE DID NOT SET IN A STABLE FORM."

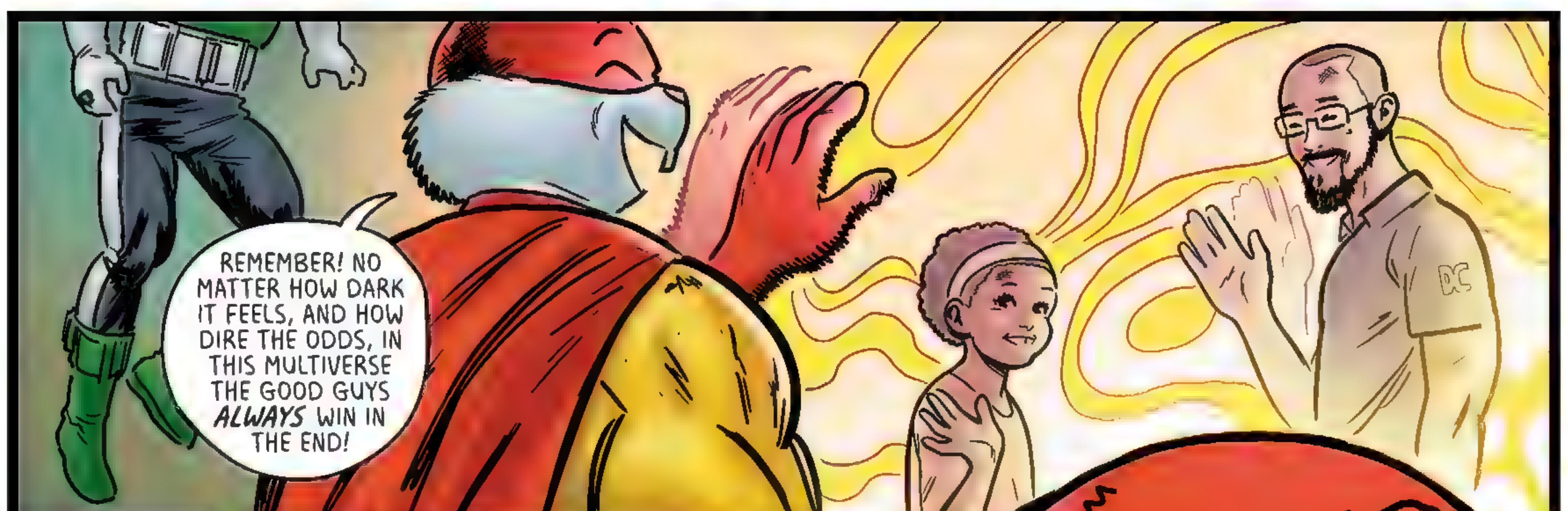
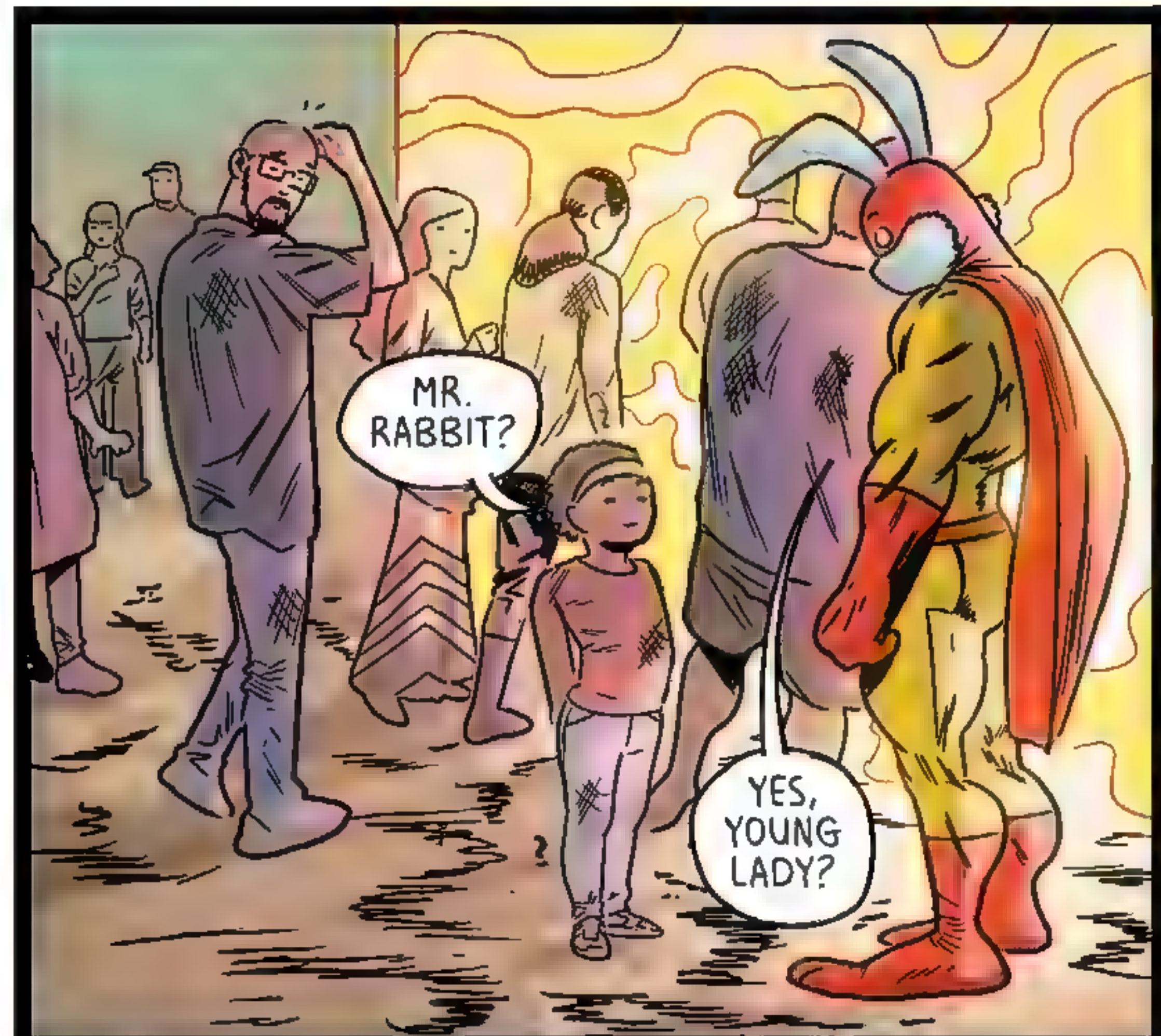
"AN INFINITE MULTIVERSE WAS BORN, CONTAINING INFINITE WORLDS, WITH INFINITE POSSIBILITIES. BUT EACH OF THESE UNIVERSES SHARED A SINGLE BARRIER, IN THE SOURCE WALL."

"PERPETUA WAS FORCED TO WATCH HER MULTIVERSE GROW MORE AND MORE UNSTABLE. SHE KNEW ITS ULTIMATE FATE: IT WOULD DIE, AND SHE WOULD DIE WITH IT."

"SHE NEEDED TO FREE HERSELF, BUT THE ONLY THING THAT COULD FREE HER WAS AN ACTION THAT WOULD CRACK THE VERY FOUNDATION OF REALITY."

"A CRISIS."

"AND SO, PERPETUA BEGAN TO WHISPER IN THE MIND OF HER SON, THE ANTI-MONITOR, TO SET HIM ON A PATH THAT WOULD RESHAPE ALL OF EXISTENCE."



"...LIKE I SAID, PHYSICS WORKS DIFFERENTLY IN MY UNIVERSE. I DIDN'T THINK PERPETUA'S APEX PREDATORS HAD THAT KIND OF POWER.

"BY THE TIME I HAD CALLED FOR JUSTICE INCARNATE'S HELP, I HAD ALREADY LOST SO MUCH."



"I WAS SAVED IN THE NICK OF TIME, TAKEN TO THE HOUSE OF HEROES..."

SNIFF



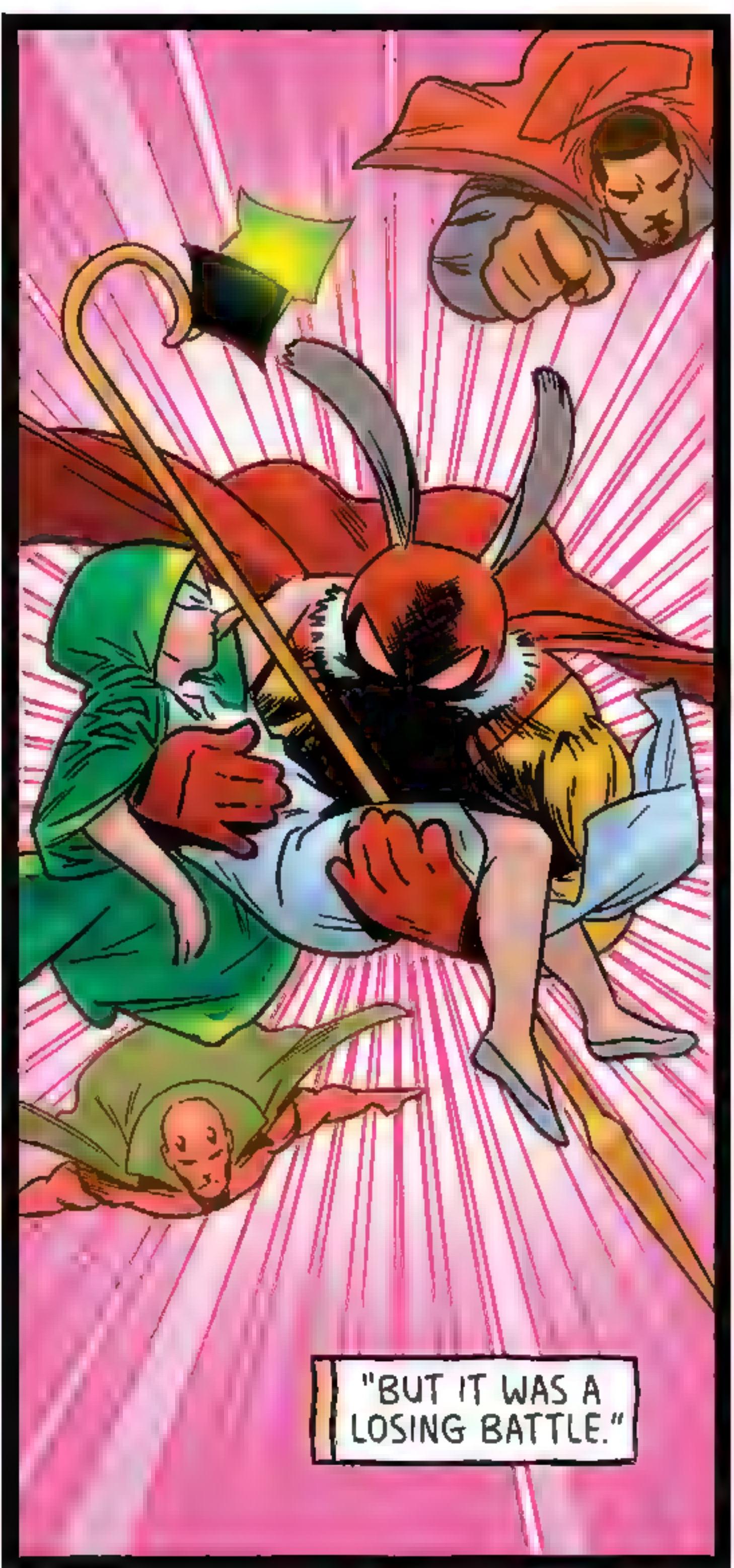
"...EXCEPT PERPETUA WAS TOO POWERFUL."

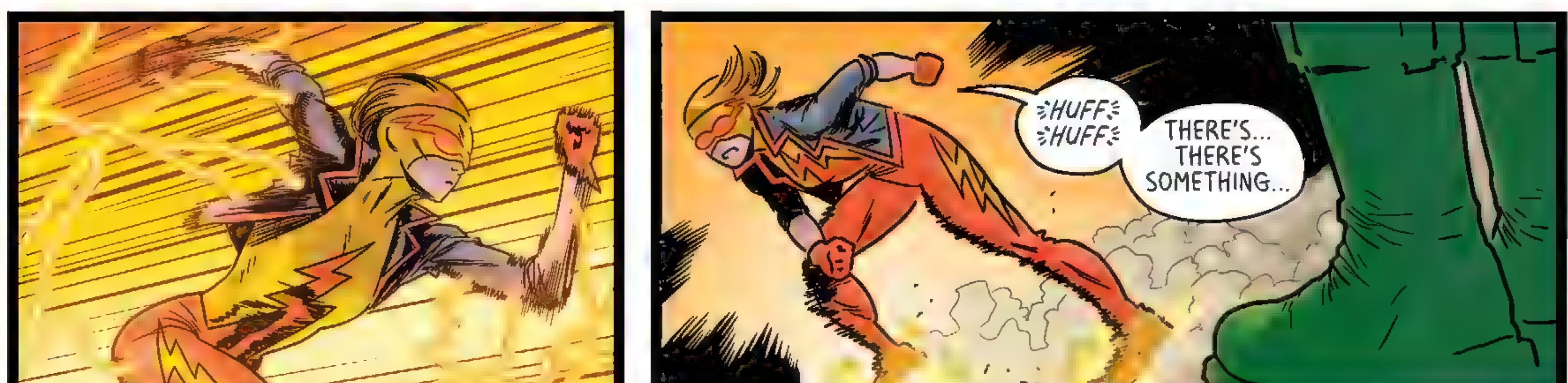
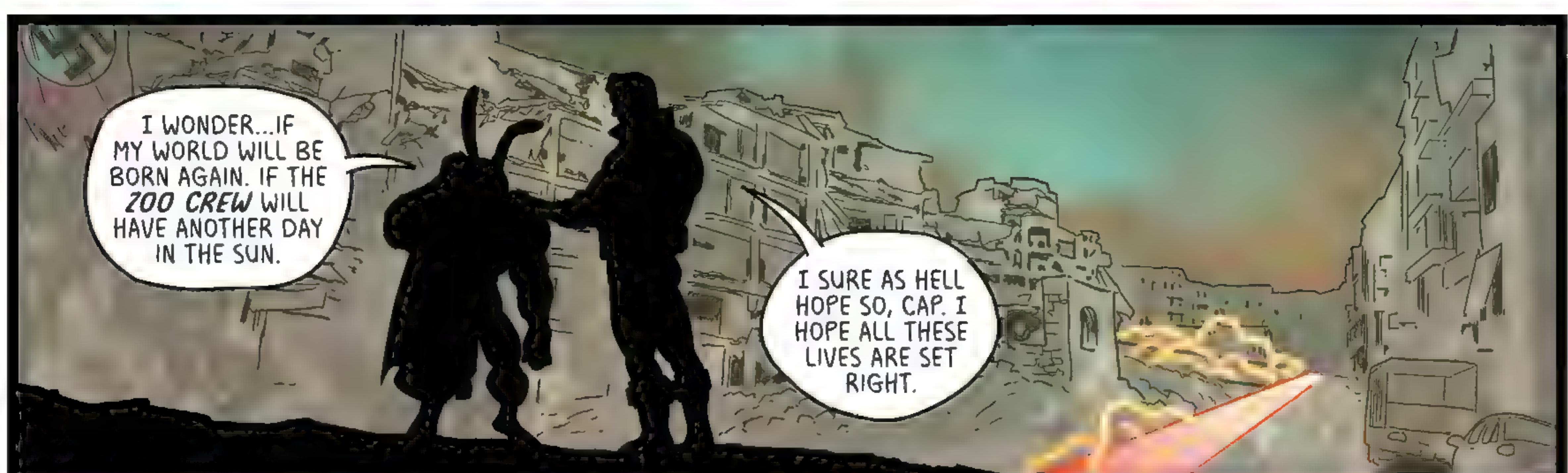


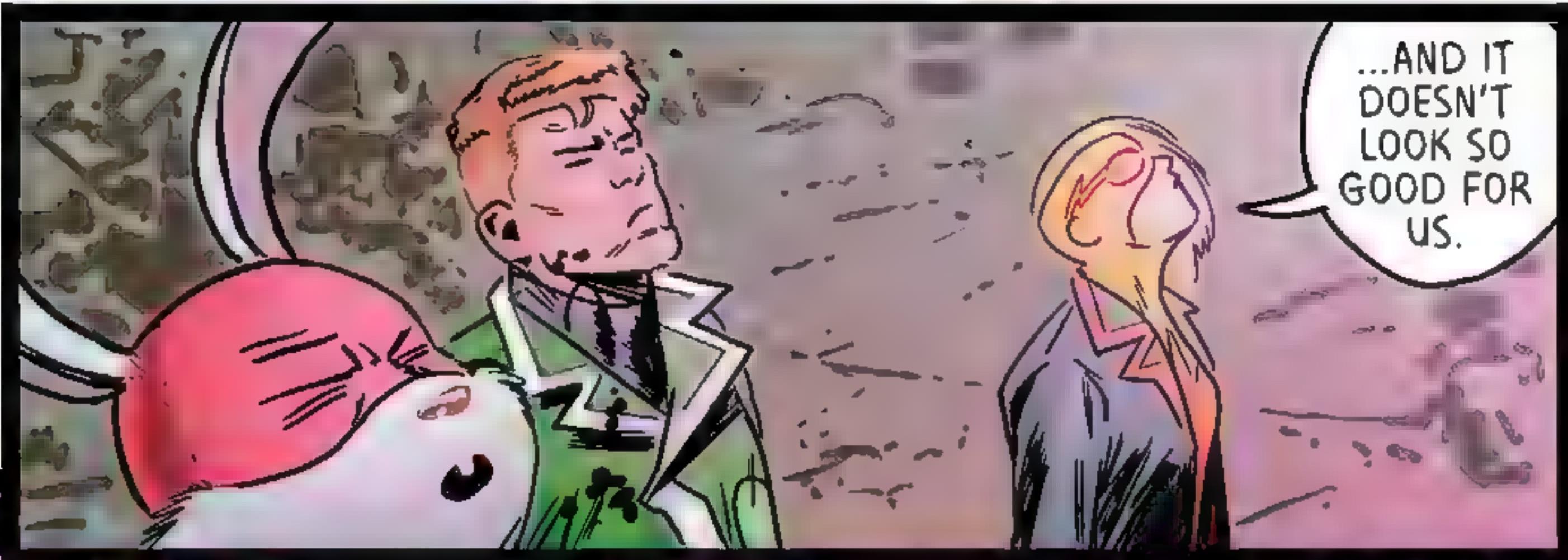
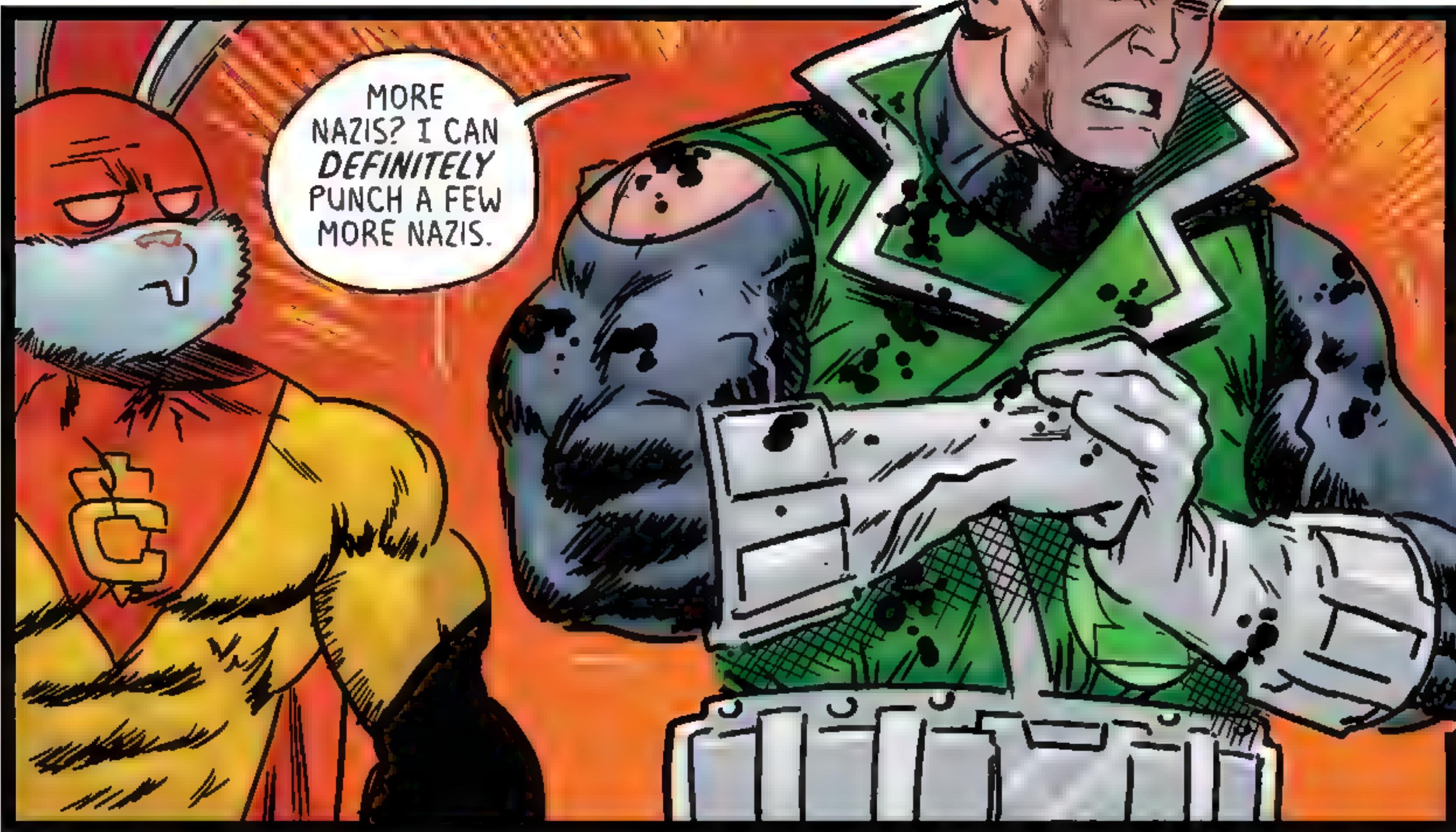
"ALL WE COULD DO WAS JUMP FROM WORLD TO WORLD, SAVING WHO WE COULD..."



"BUT IT WAS A LOSING BATTLE."





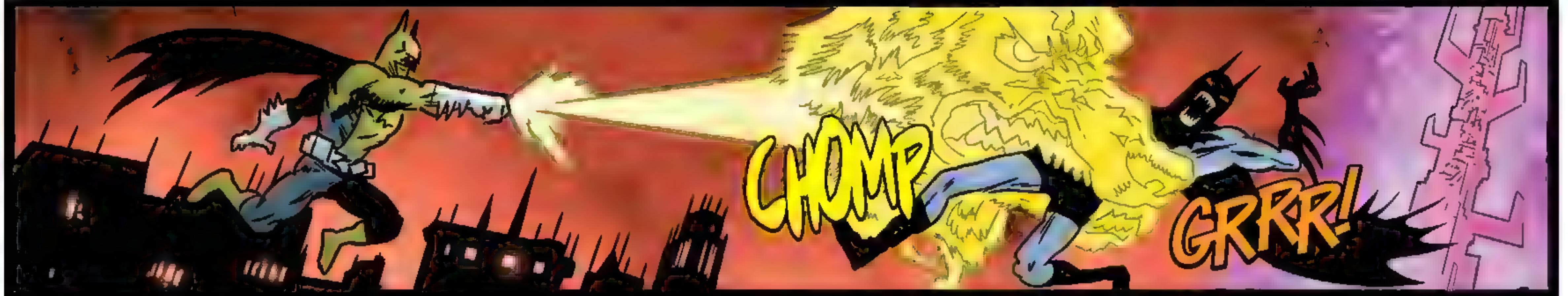
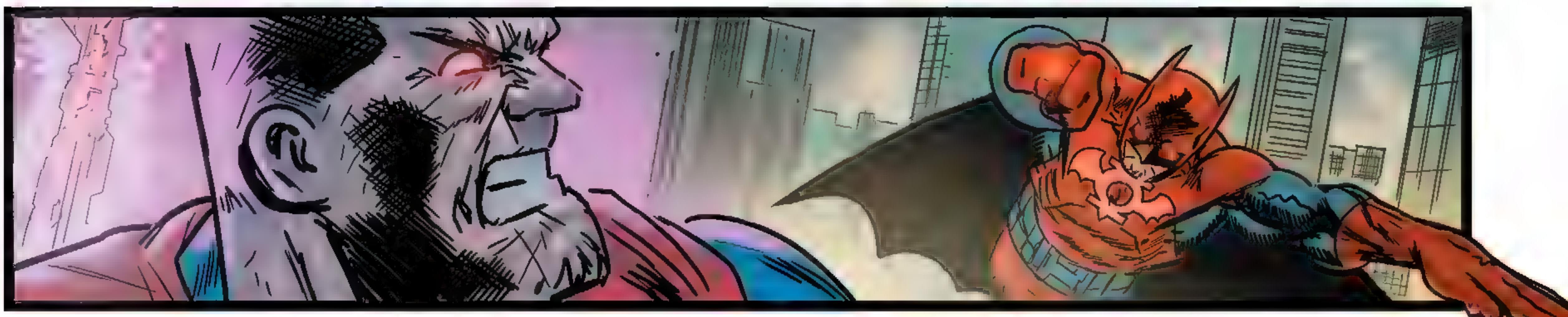


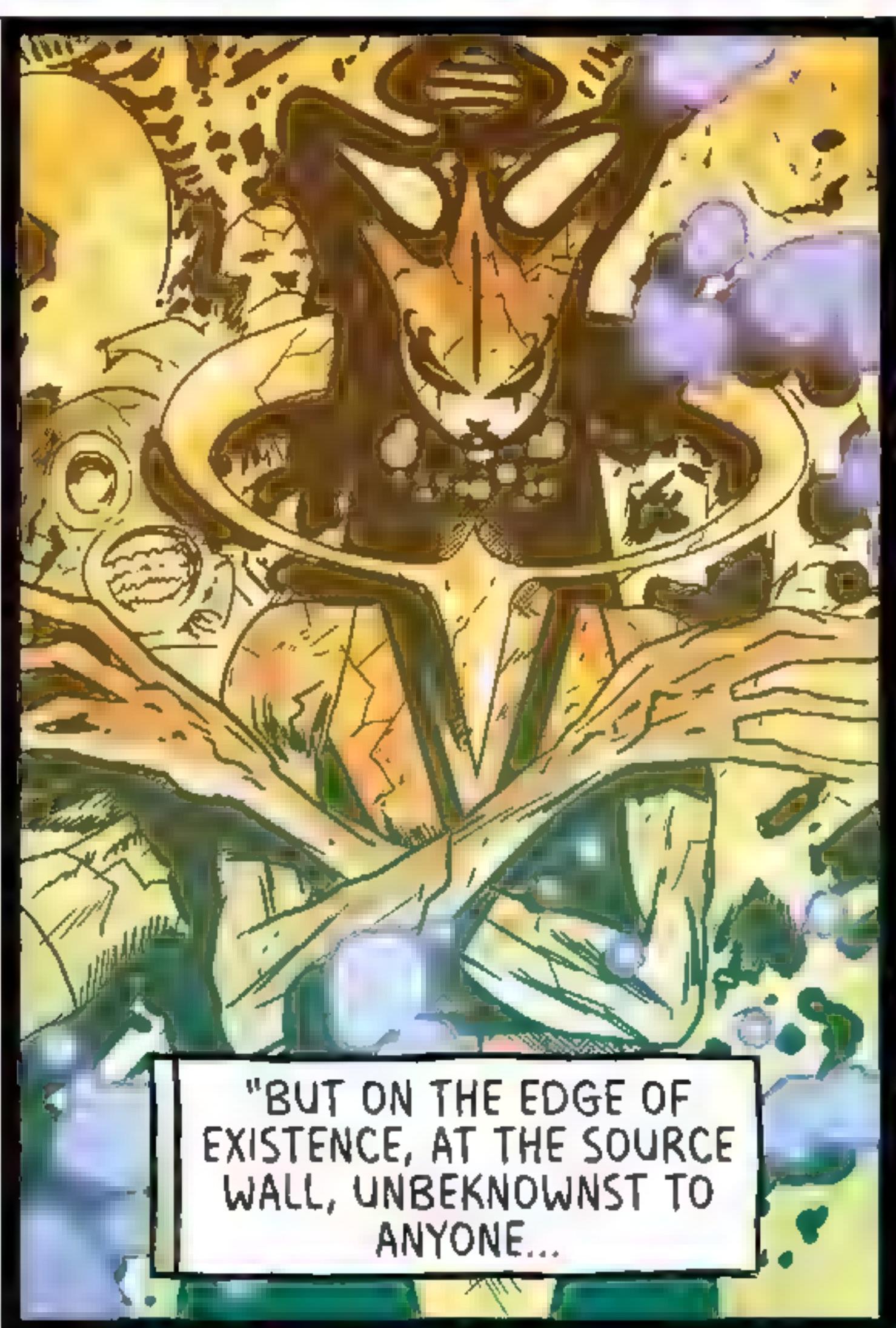
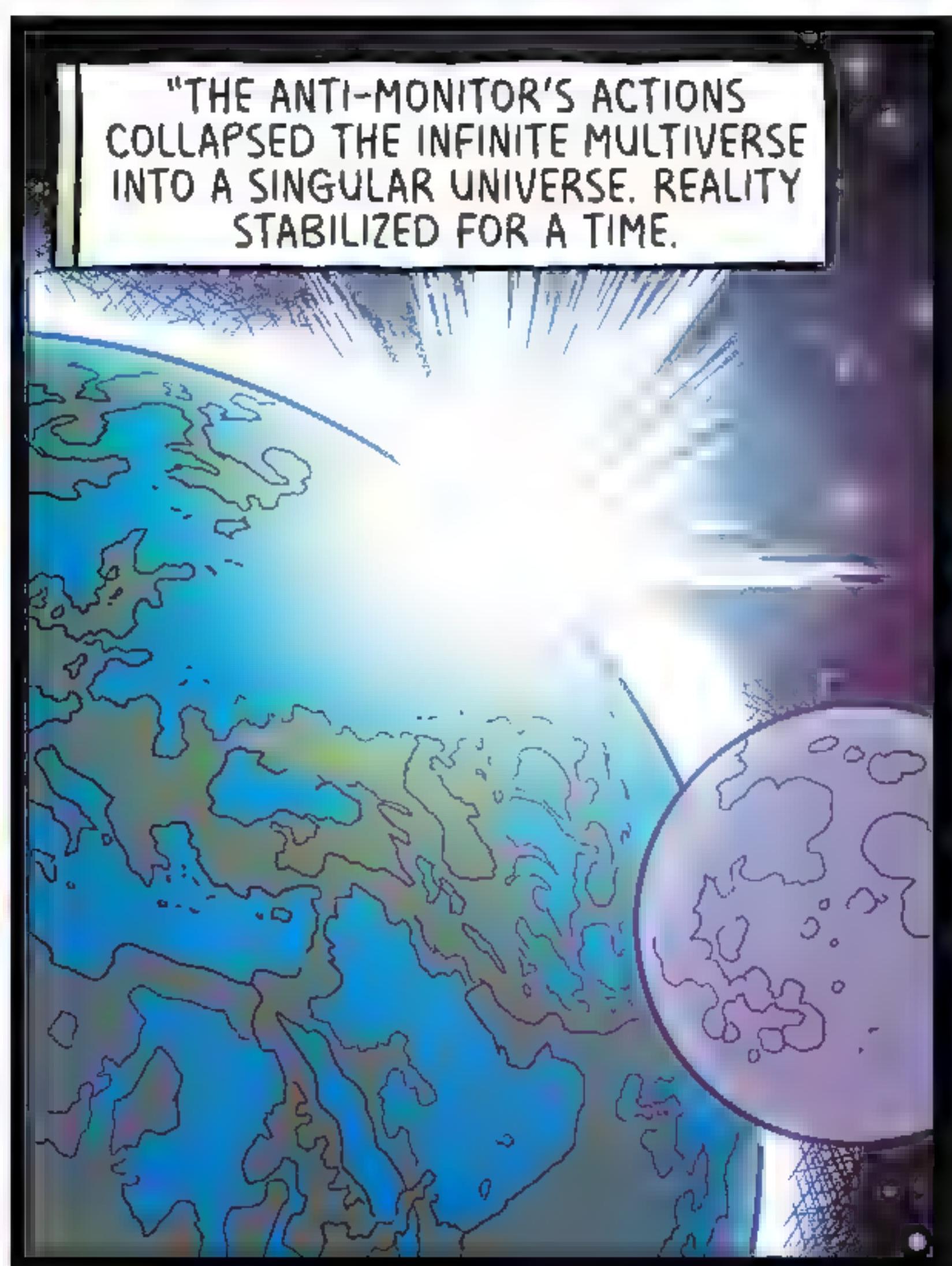
JUSTICE
INCARNATE! I AM
BROADCASTING ON
ALL MULTIVERSAL
FREQUENCIES.

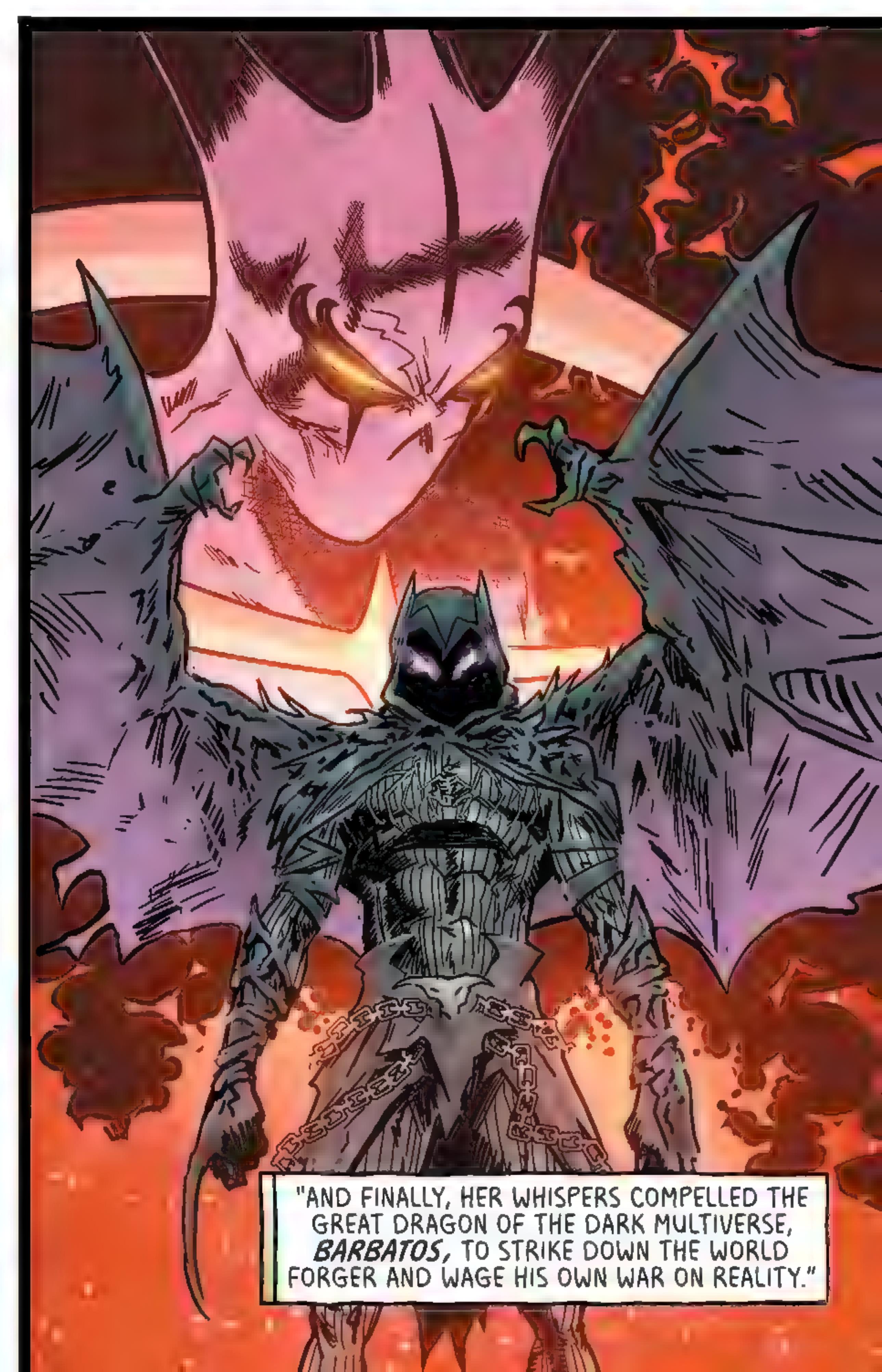
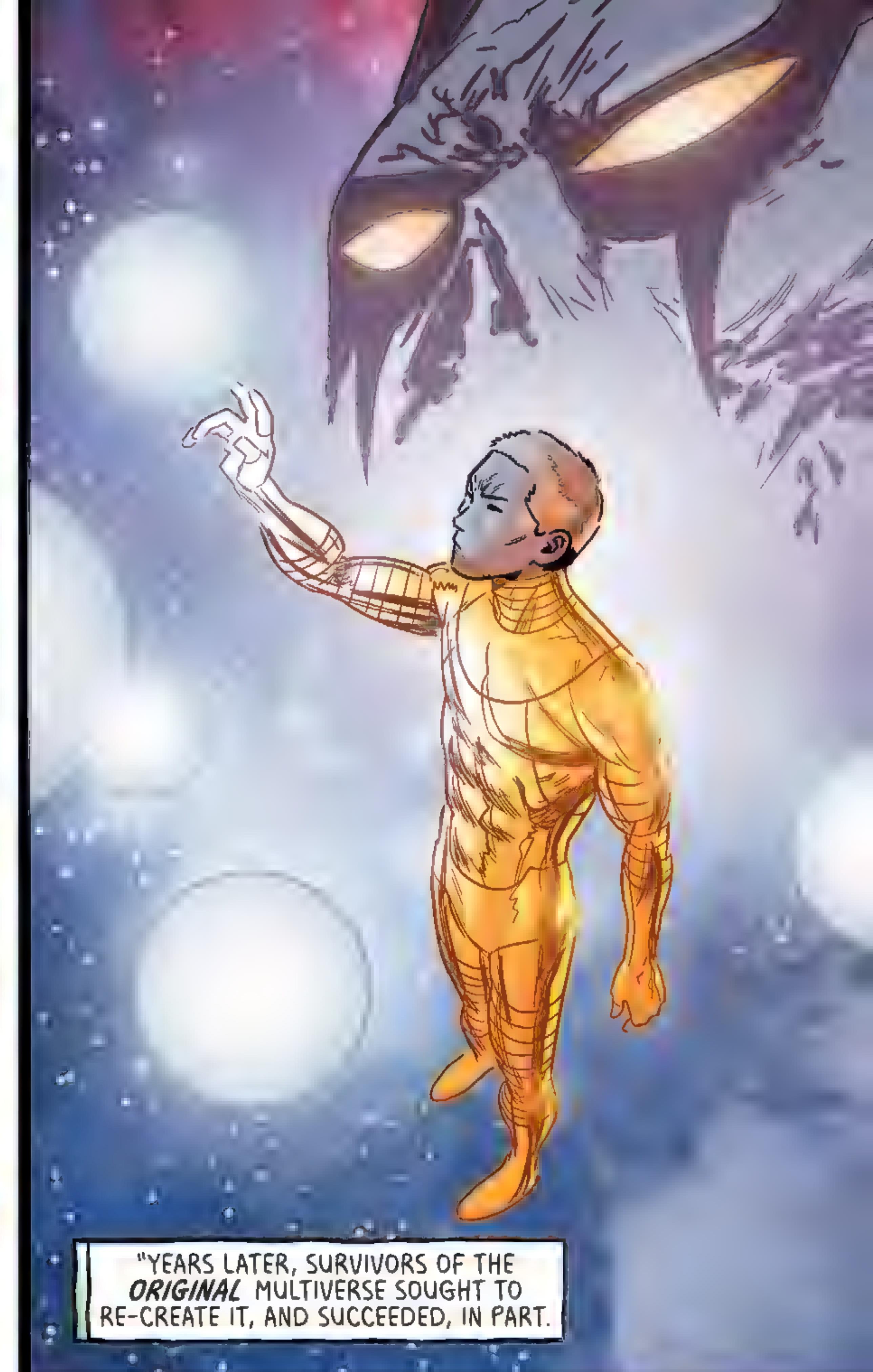
SURRENDER
NOW, AND HAND
OVER THE PEOPLE OF
EARTH-O, OR YOU WILL
BE SLAUGHTERED AT THE
HANDS OF MY RAINBOW
BATMAN CORPS!



I'LL SKIN
YOU ALL ALIVE,
TO MAKE A QUILT
FOR MY CRIB.
DON'T TEST ME.
I'M VERY, VERY
CRANKY.







"EACH TIME, HEROES OF THE MULTIVERSE PUSHED BACK AGAINST THE CRISES. THEY WERE CHANGED, TIME AND TIME AGAIN, BUT THEIR CORE ESSENCE REMAINED."

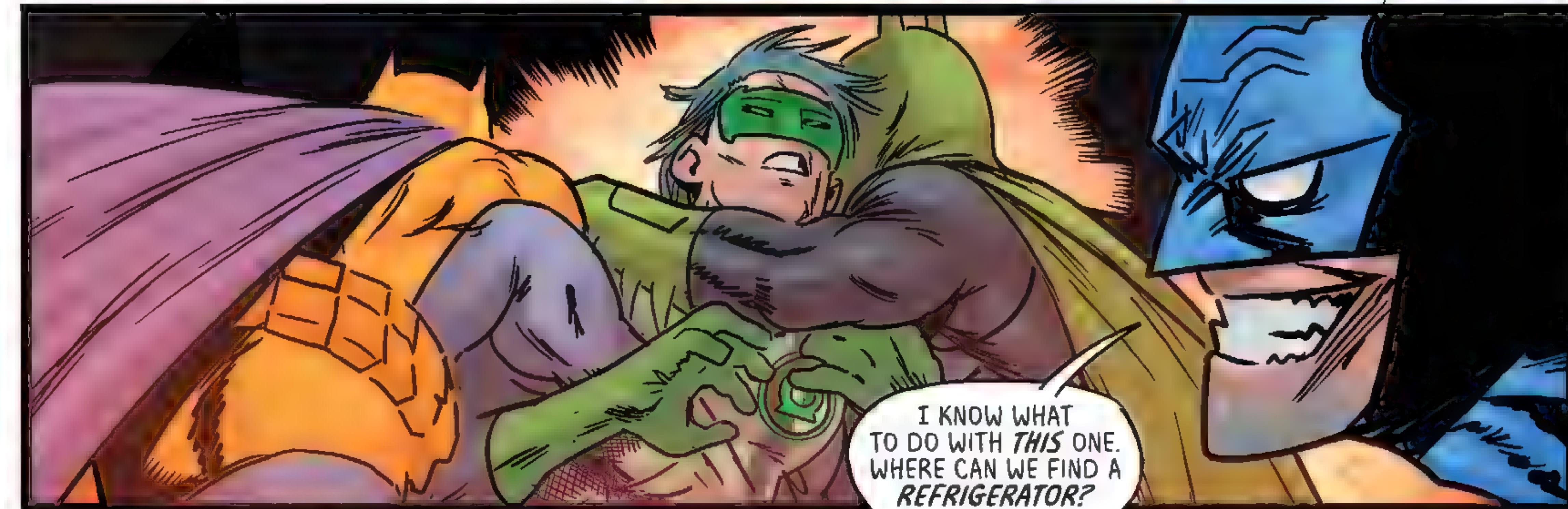
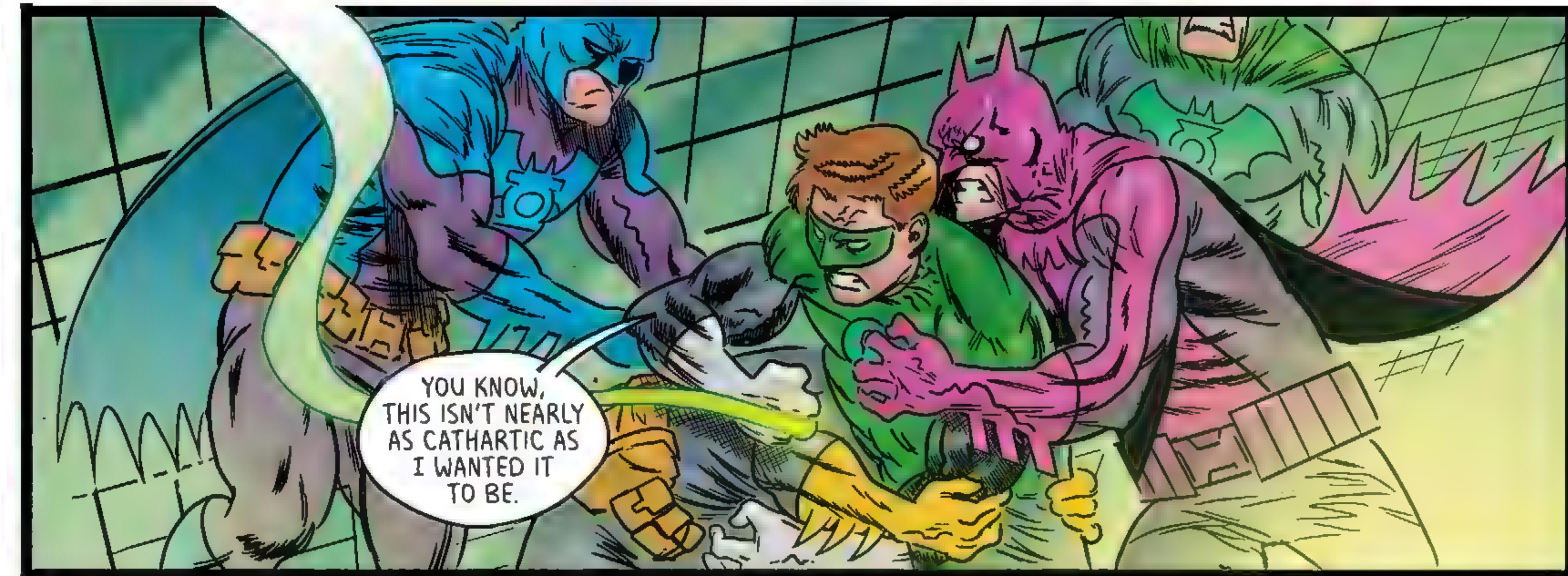
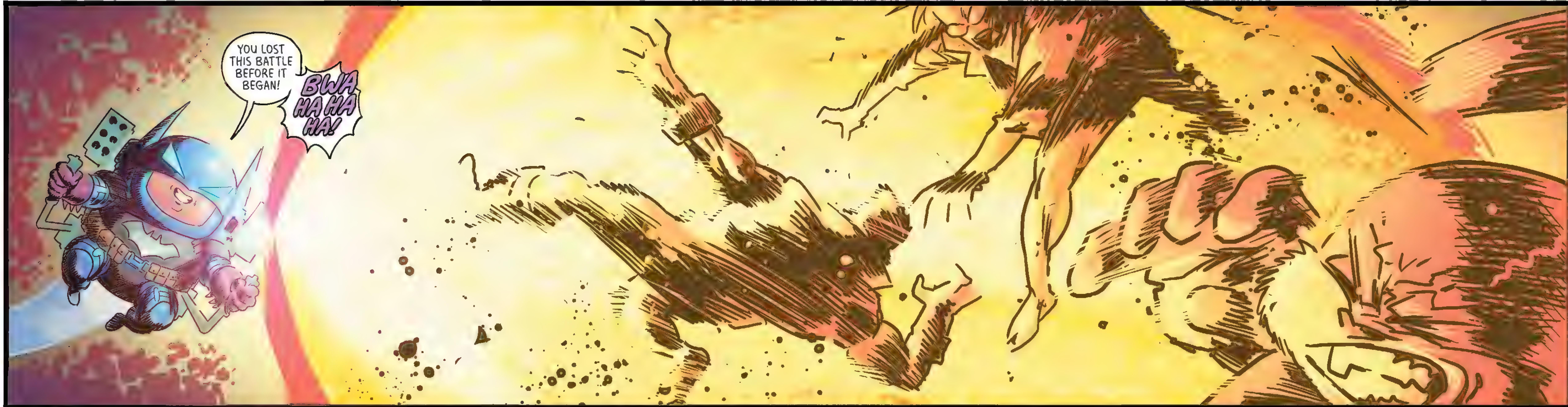
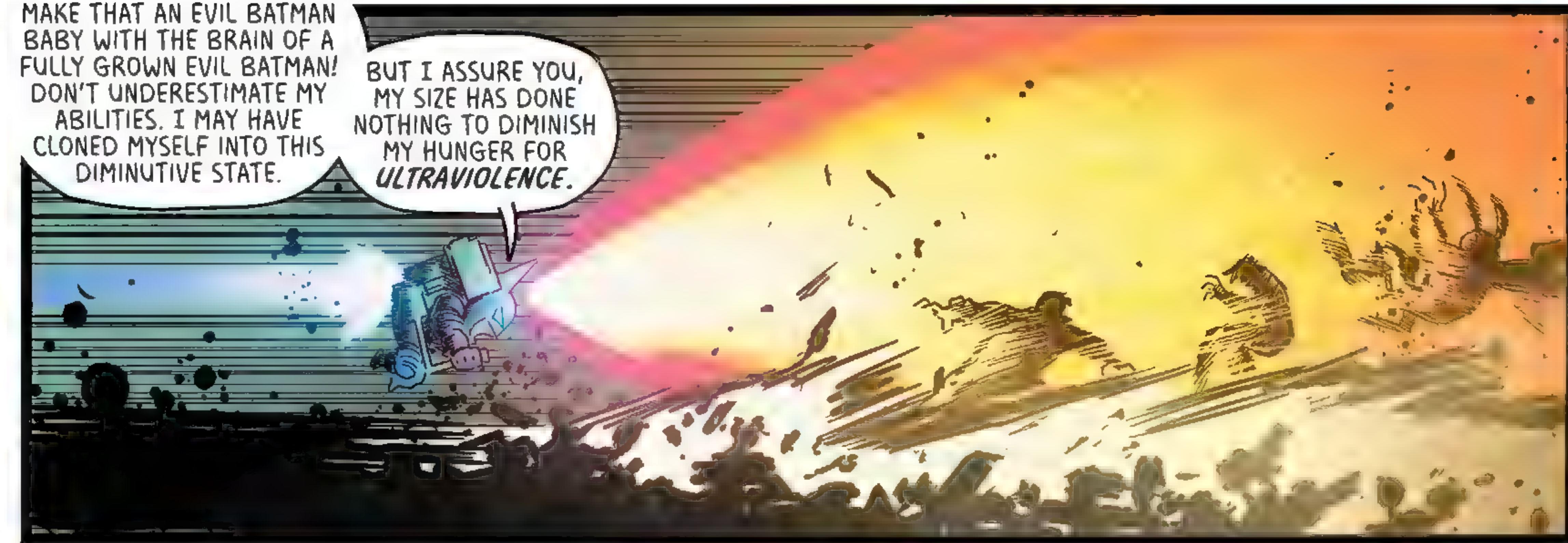
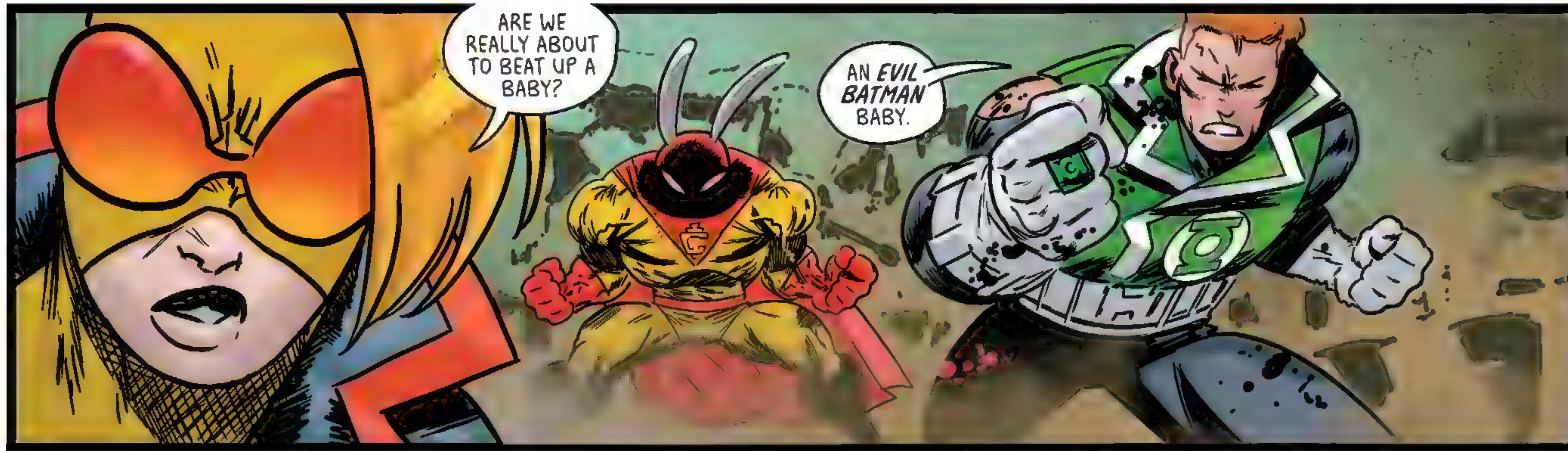
"THOUGH UNBEKNOWNST TO US HEROES, EACH TIME REALITY SETTLED INTO ITS NEW SHAPE, A NEW CRACK FORMED IN PERPETUA'S CONTAINMENT."

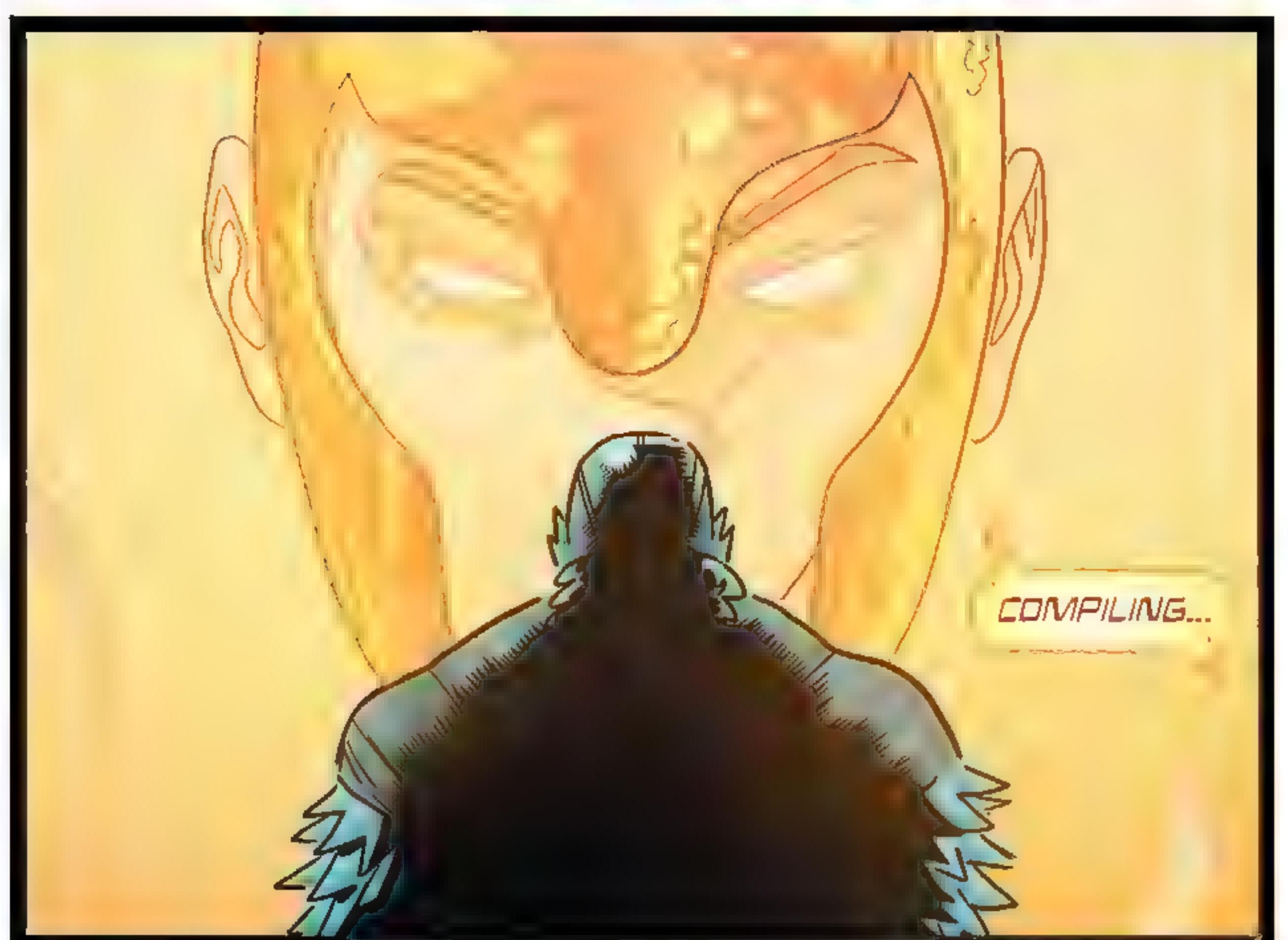
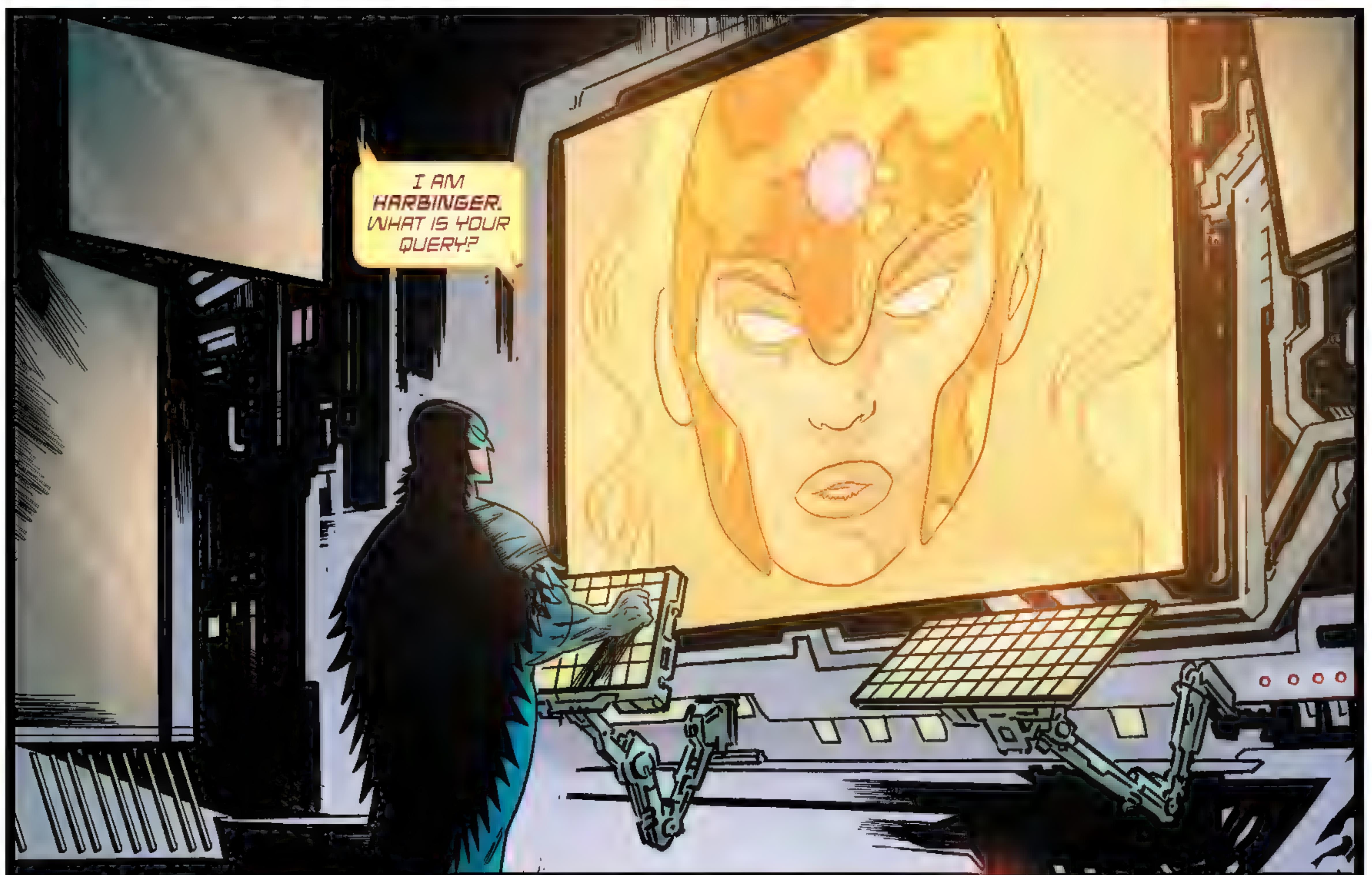
"AND WHEN THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF EARTH-0 USED ELEMENT X, STRAIGHT FROM THE WORLD FORGE, TO LOCK THE DARK MULTIVERSE AWAY..."

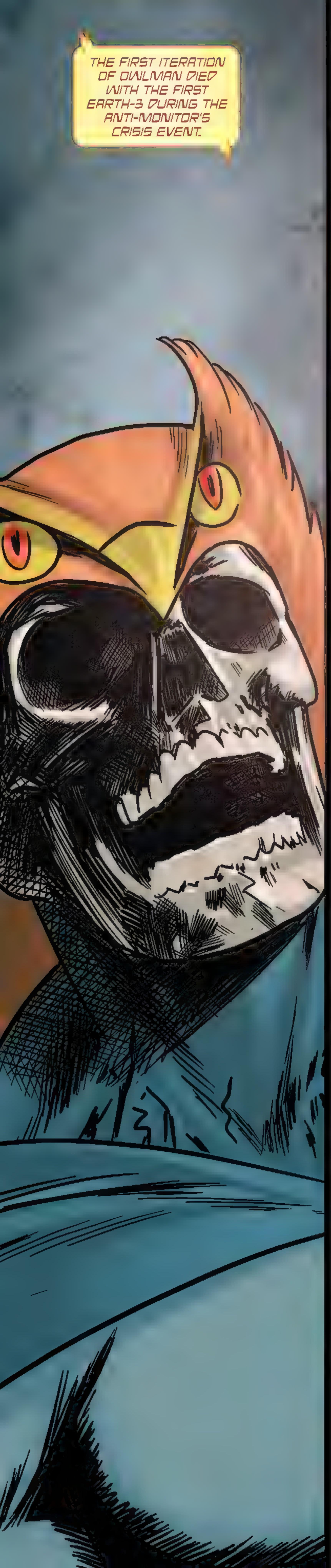
"THE SOURCE WALL RIPPED OPEN."

"AND PERPETUA WAS FINALLY FREE."

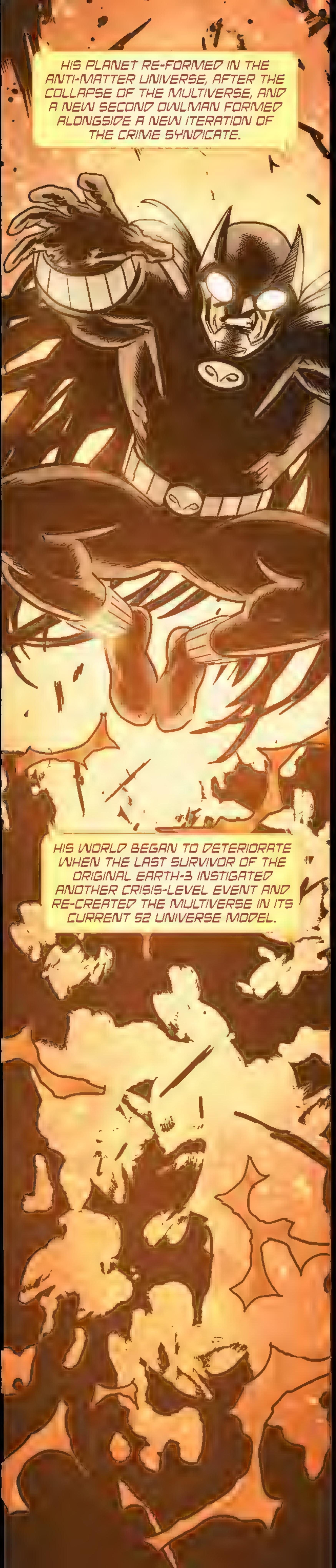




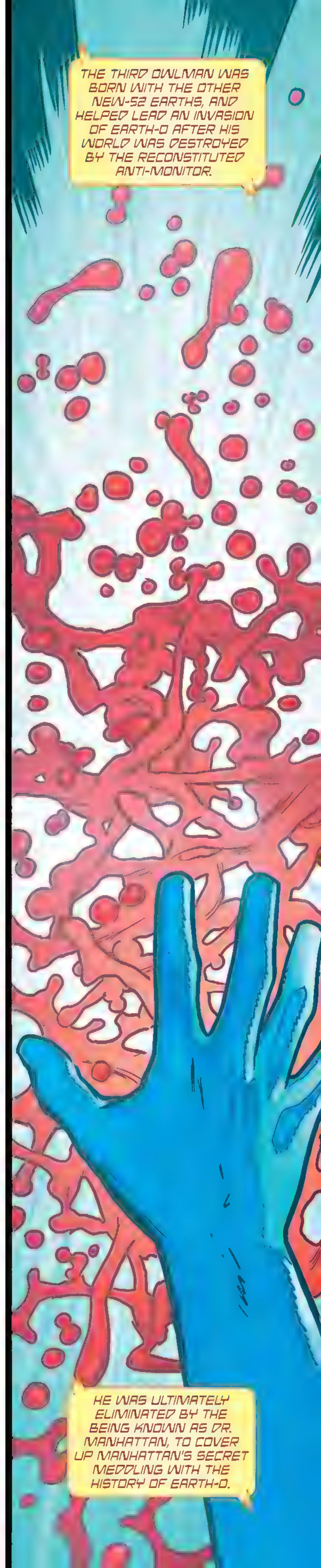




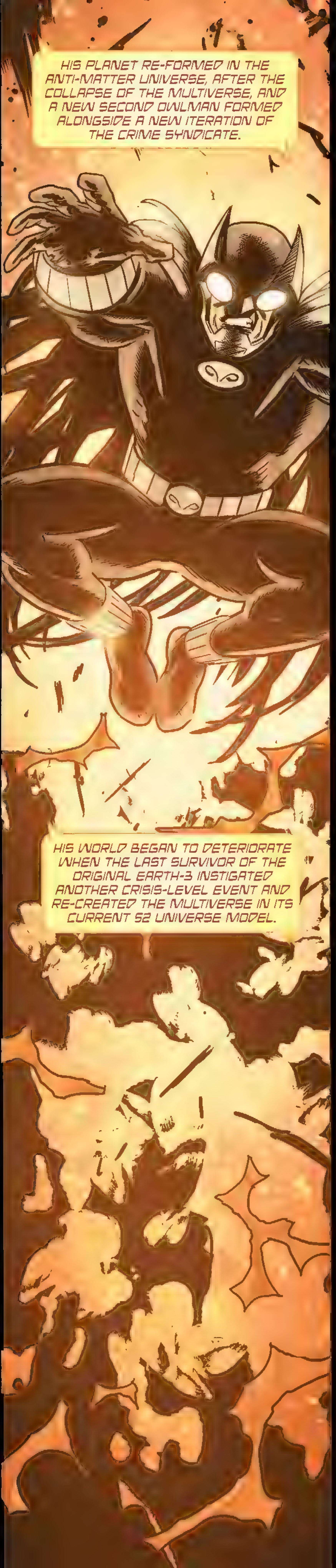
THE FIRST ITERATION OF OWLMAN DIED WITH THE FIRST EARTH-3 DURING THE ANTI-MONITOR'S CRISIS EVENT.



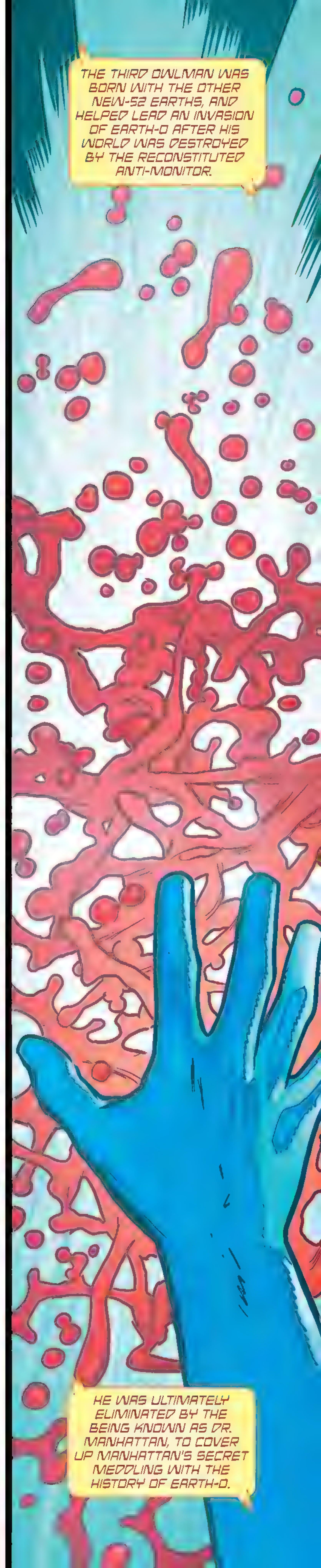
HIS PLANET RE-FORMED IN THE ANTI-MATTER UNIVERSE, AFTER THE COLLAPSE OF THE MULTIVERSE, AND A NEW SECOND OWLMAN FORMED ALONGSIDE A NEW ITERATION OF THE CRIME SYNDICATE.



THE THIRD OWLMAN WAS BORN WITH THE OTHER NEW-52 EARTHS, AND HELPED LEAD AN INVASION OF EARTH-0 AFTER HIS WORLD WAS DESTROYED BY THE RECONSTITUTED ANTI-MONITOR.



HIS WORLD BEGAN TO DETERIORATE WHEN THE LAST SURVIVOR OF THE ORIGINAL EARTH-3 INSTIGATED ANOTHER CRISIS-LEVEL EVENT AND RE-CREATED THE MULTIVERSE IN ITS CURRENT 52 UNIVERSE MODEL.

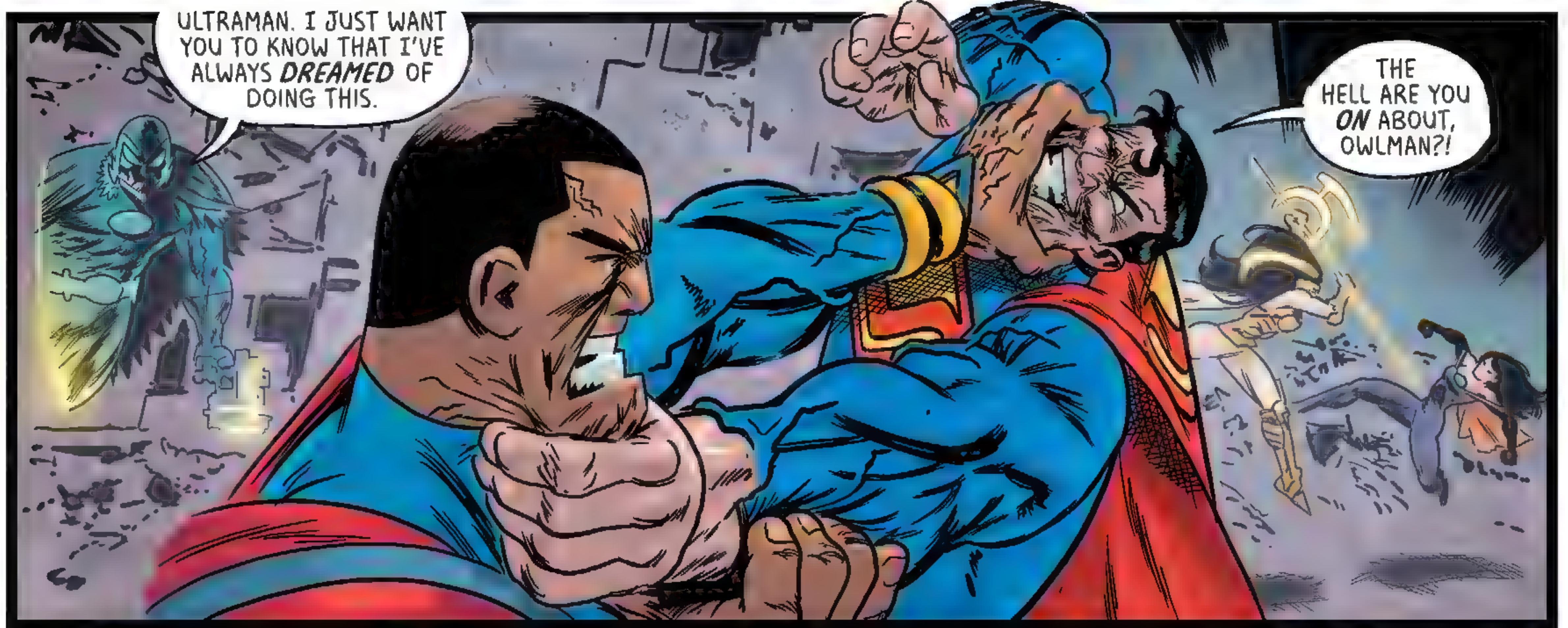


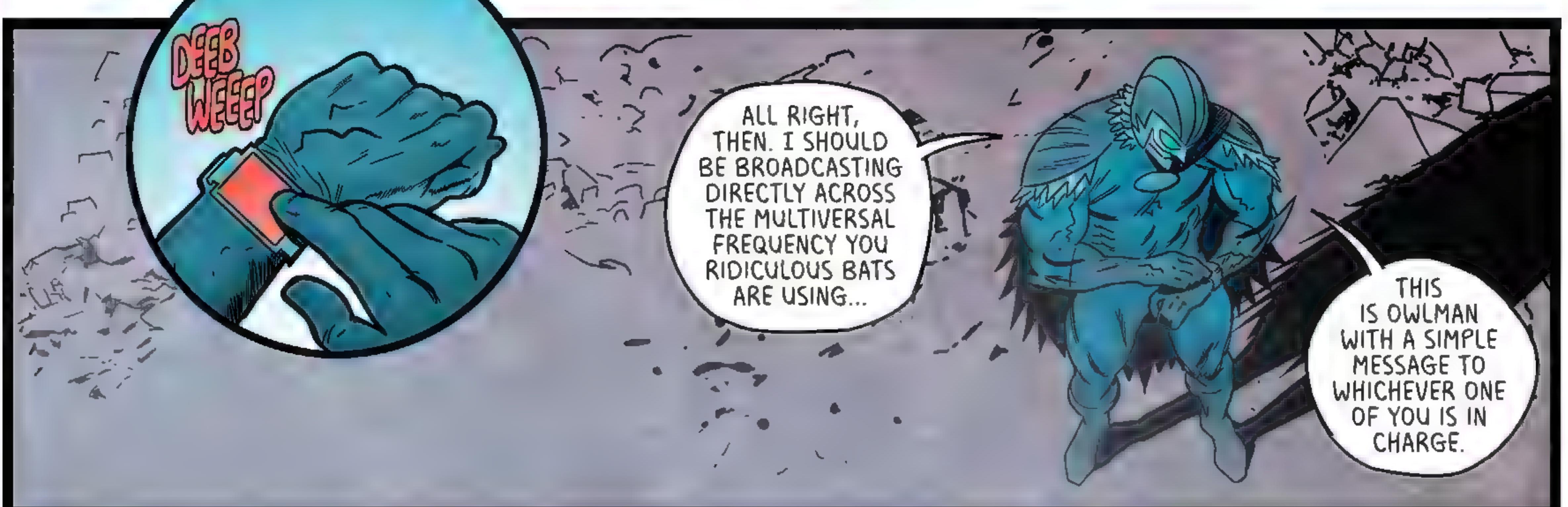
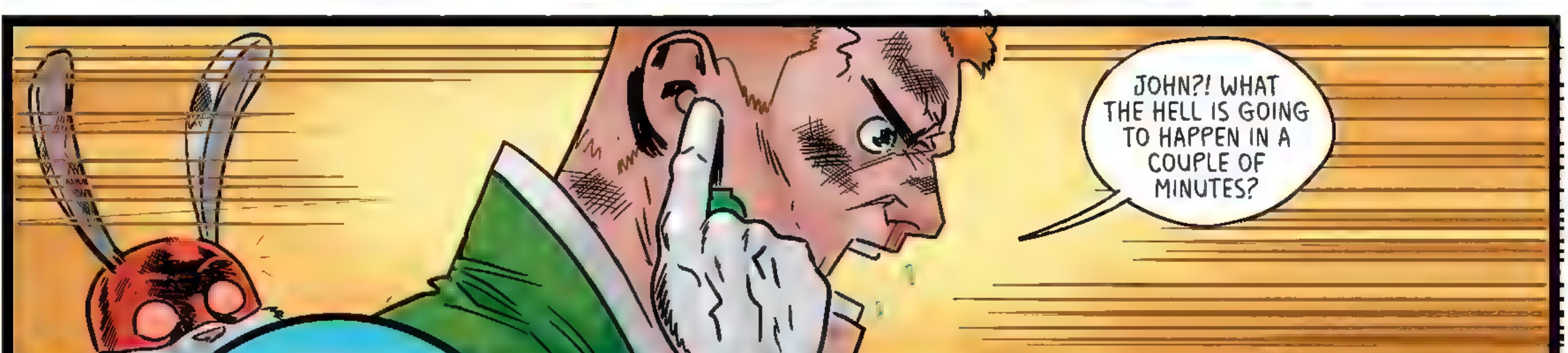
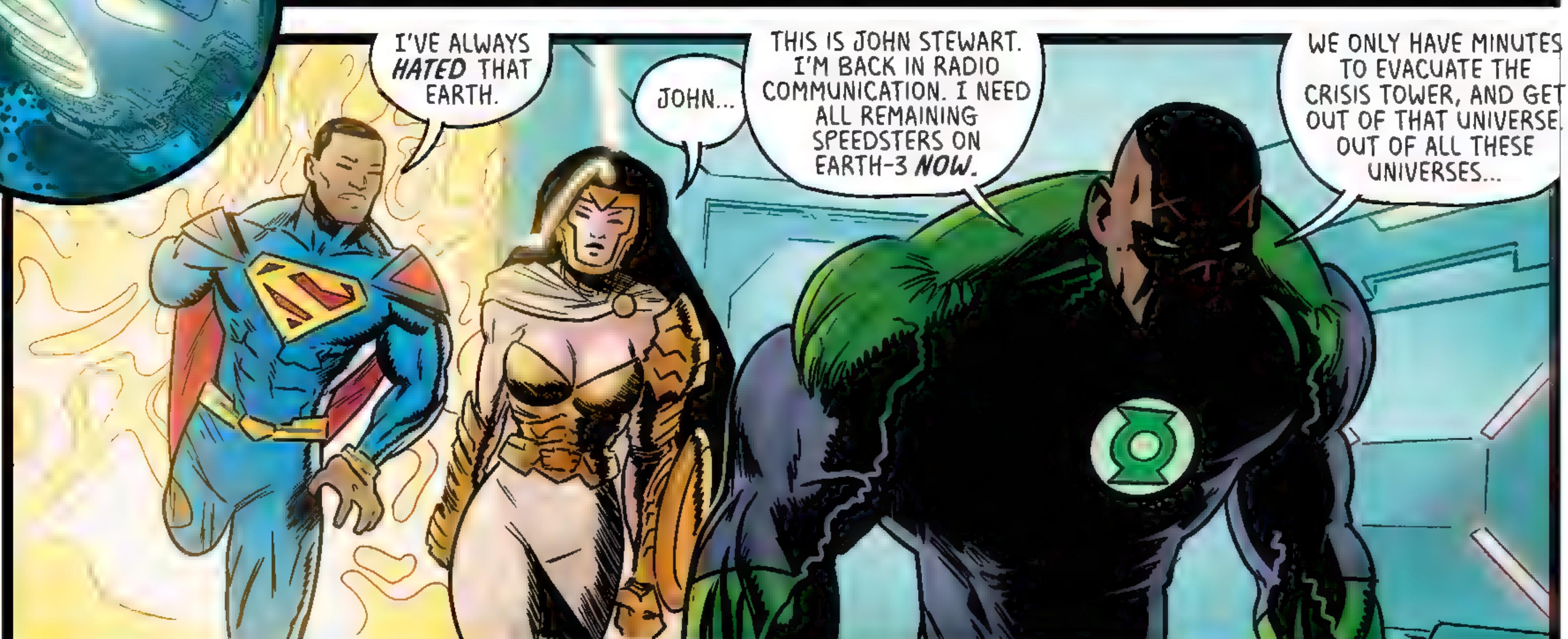
HE WAS ULTIMATELY ELIMINATED BY THE BEING KNOWN AS DR. MANHATTAN, TO COVER UP MANHATTAN'S SECRET MEDDLING WITH THE HISTORY OF EARTH-0.



DON'T YOU SEE,
JOHN? I HAVE
EXISTED IN **EVERY**
ITERATION OF OUR
MULTIVERSE! IF
IT SURVIVES,
THAT MEANS I
SURVIVE!

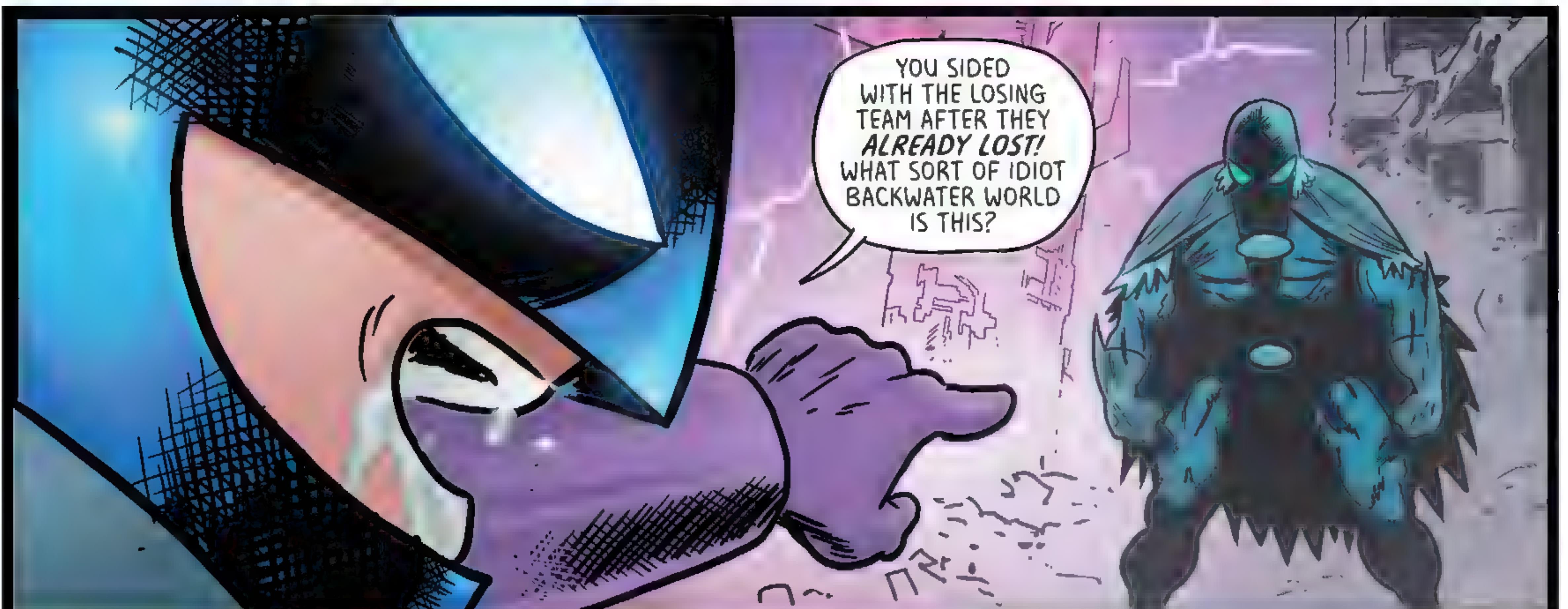
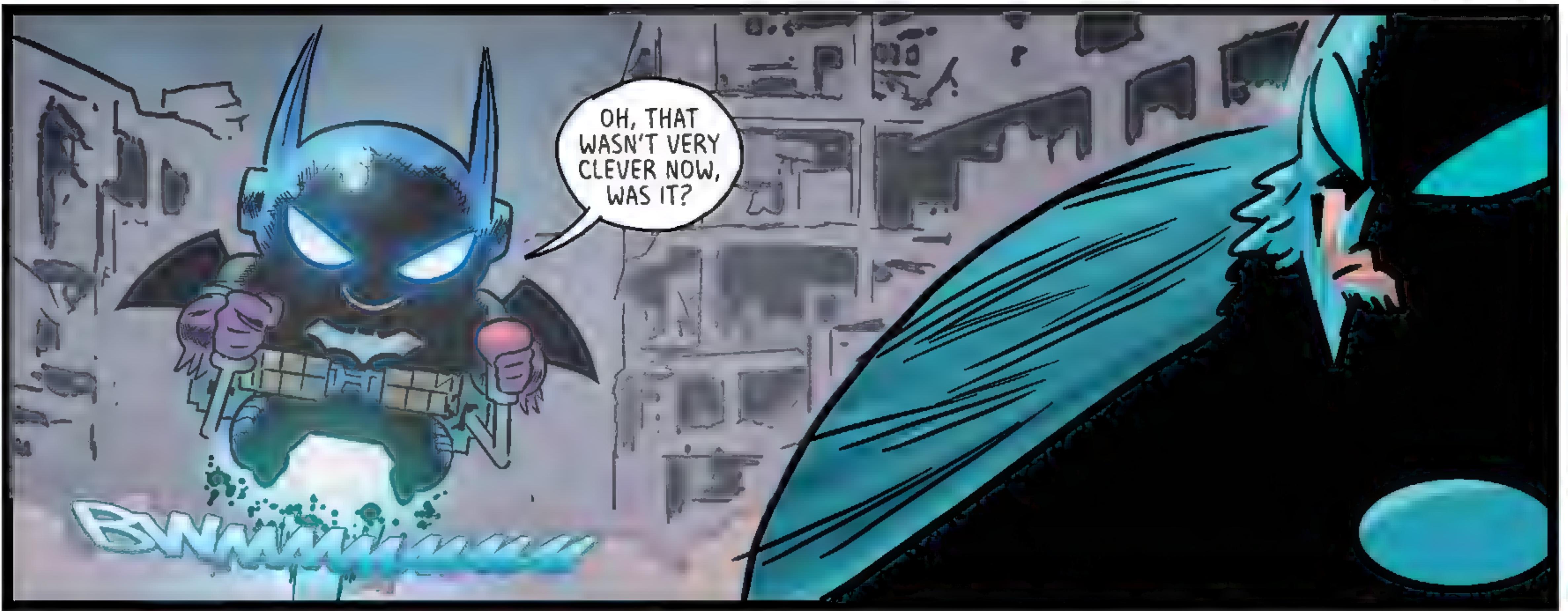




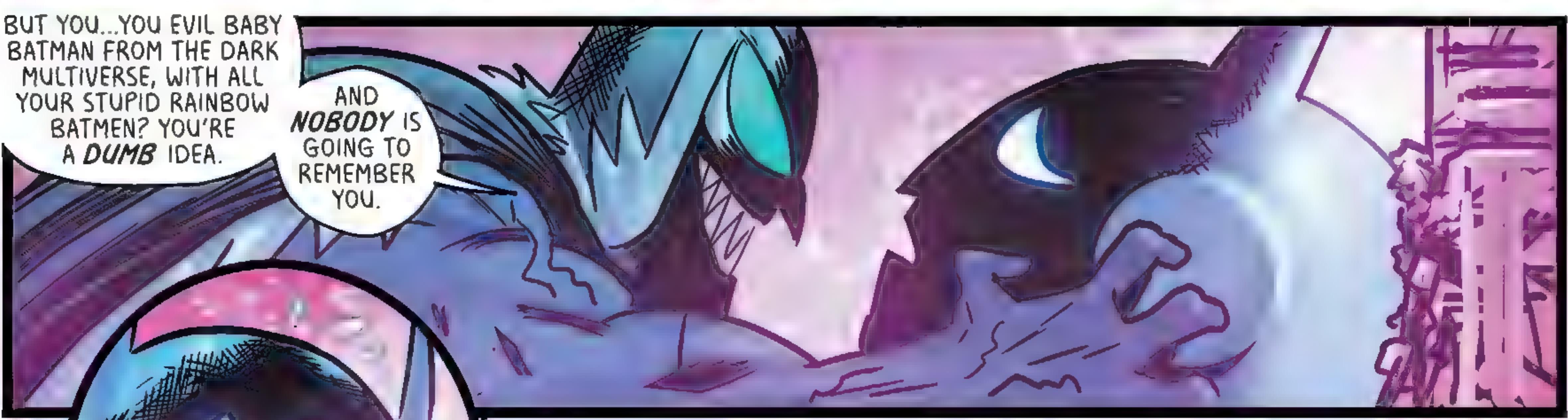
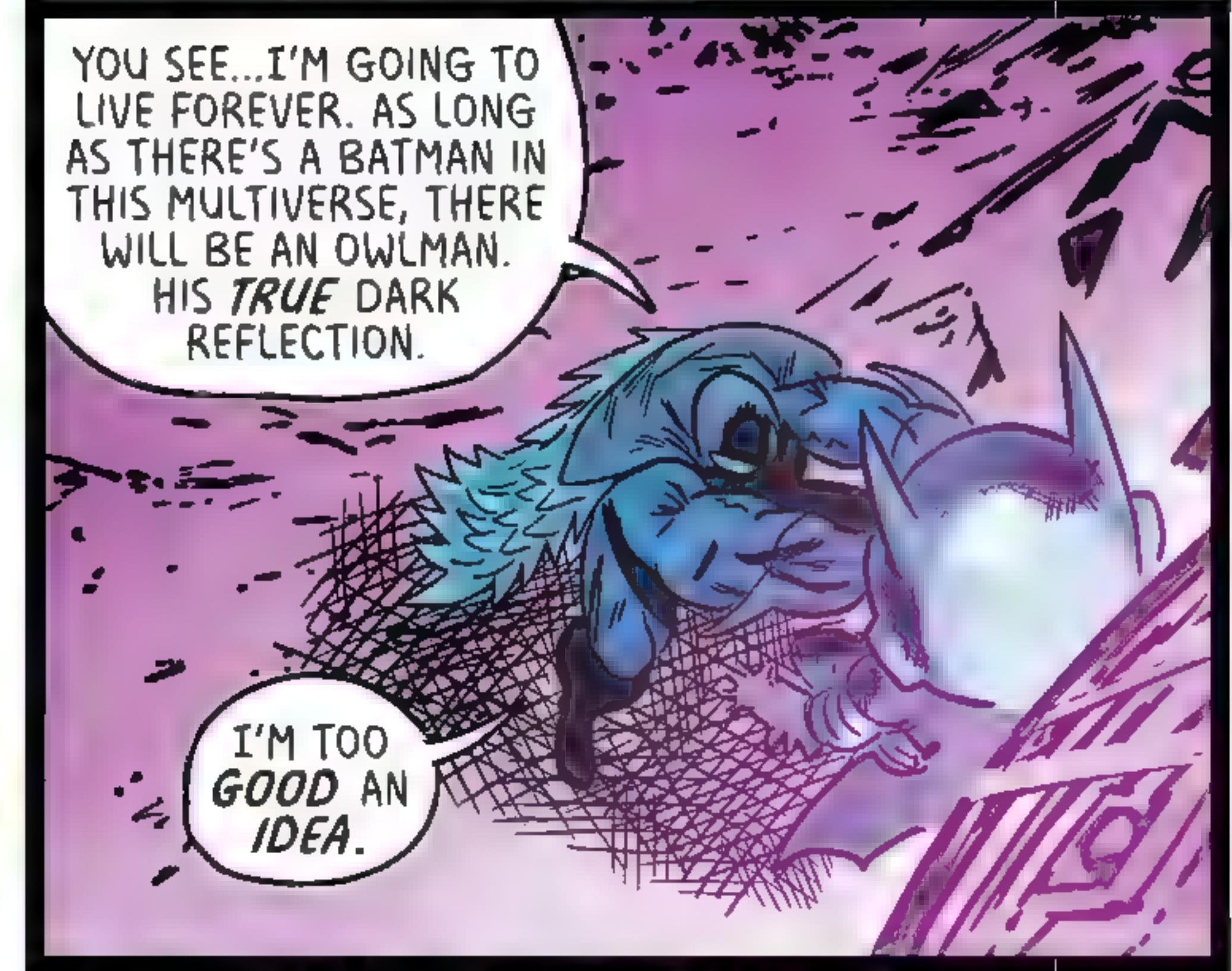
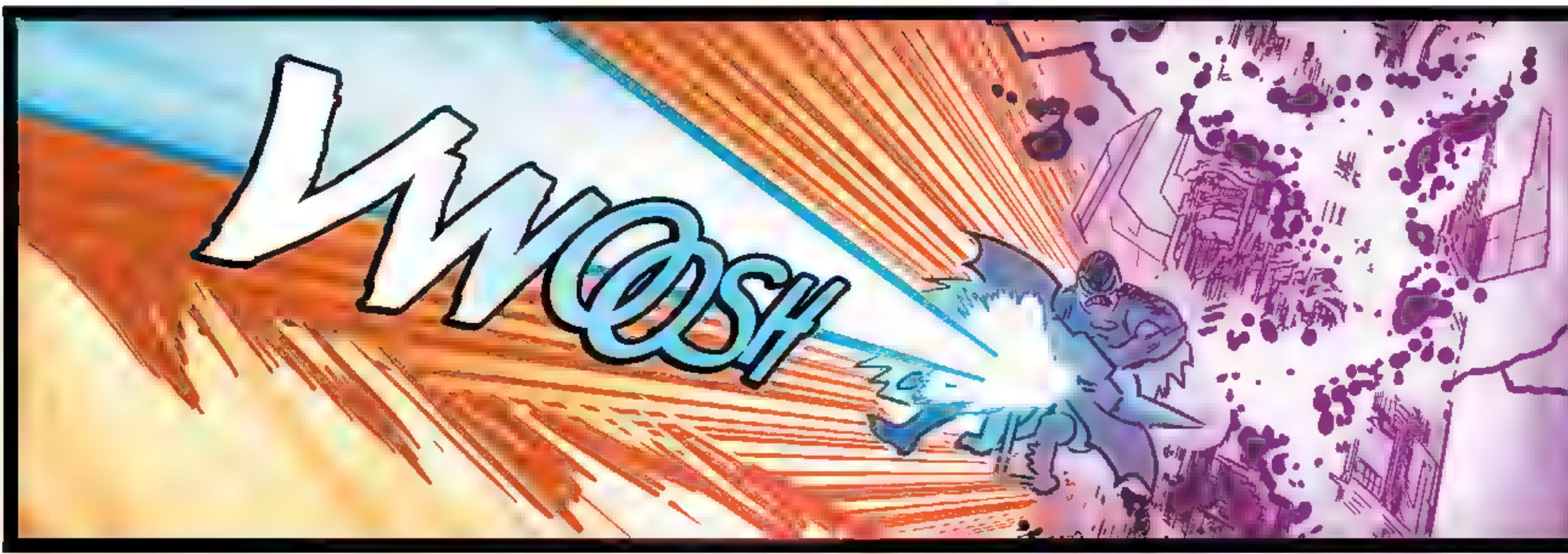


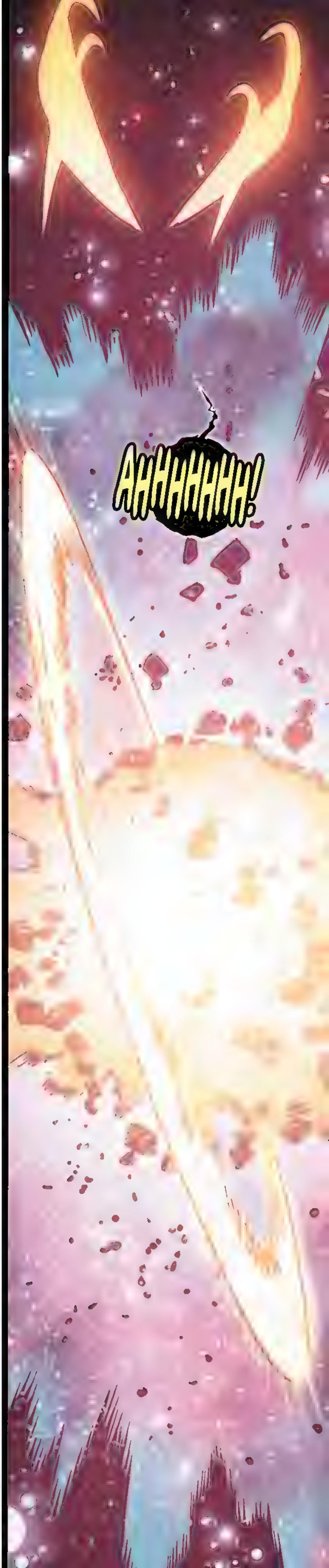


BATS
AREN'T
WELCOME
ON
EARTH-3.

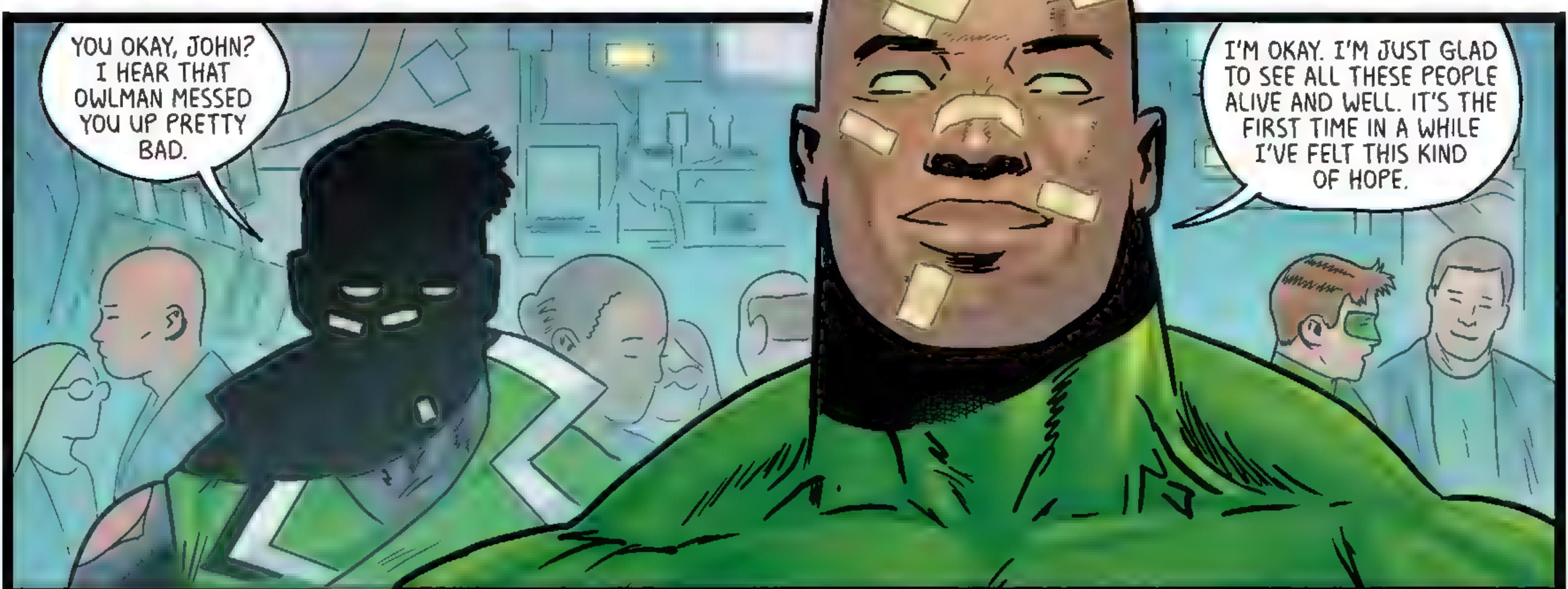
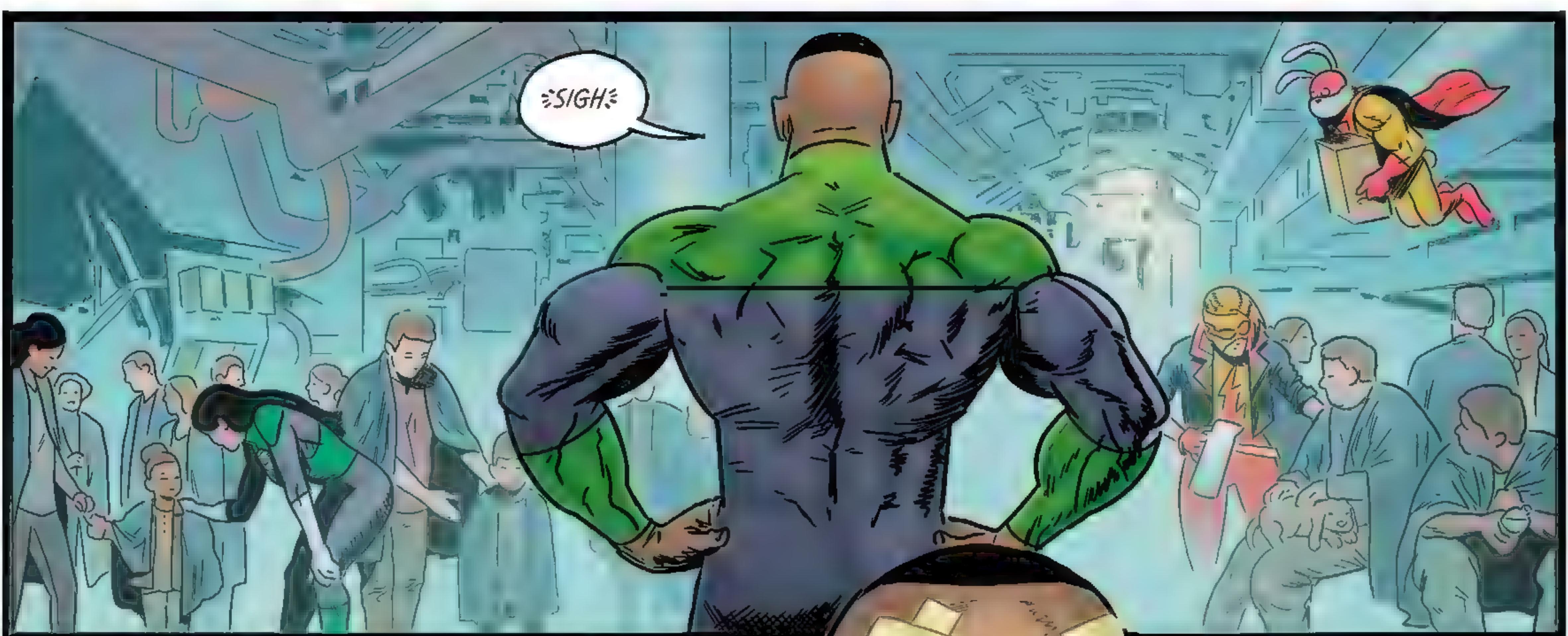


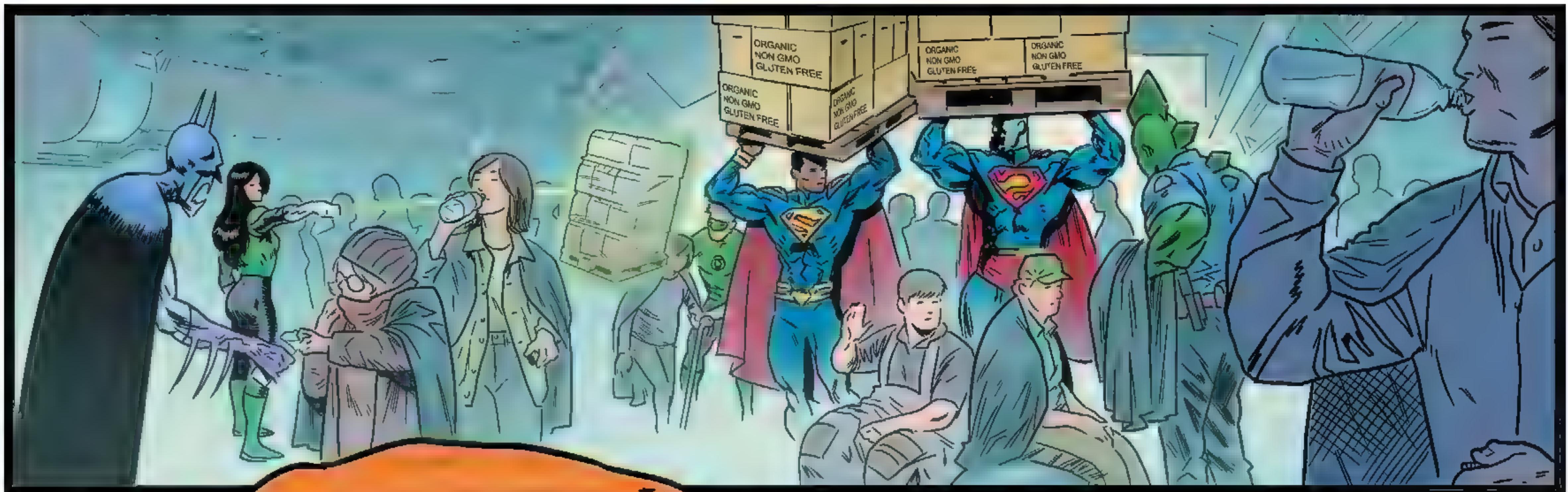


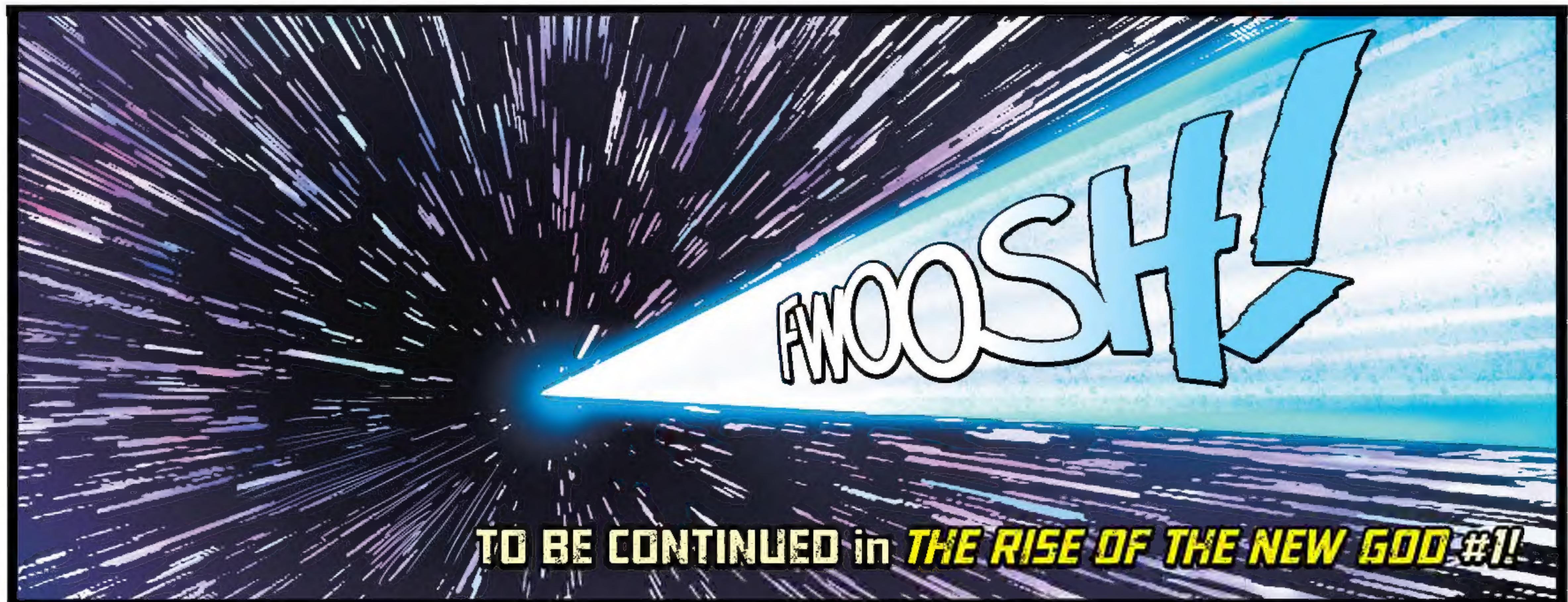
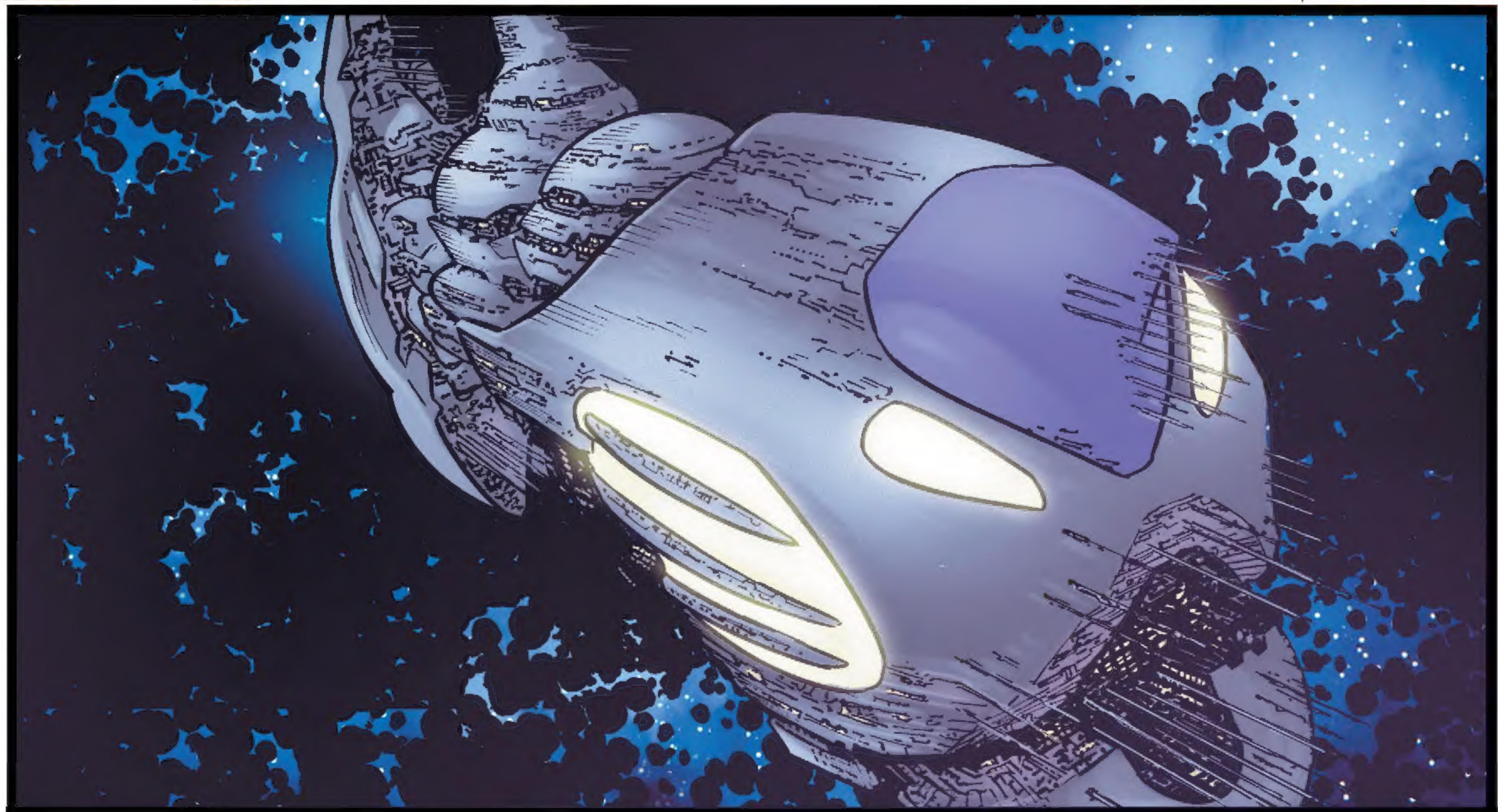




THE BLEED.
THE CARRIER.

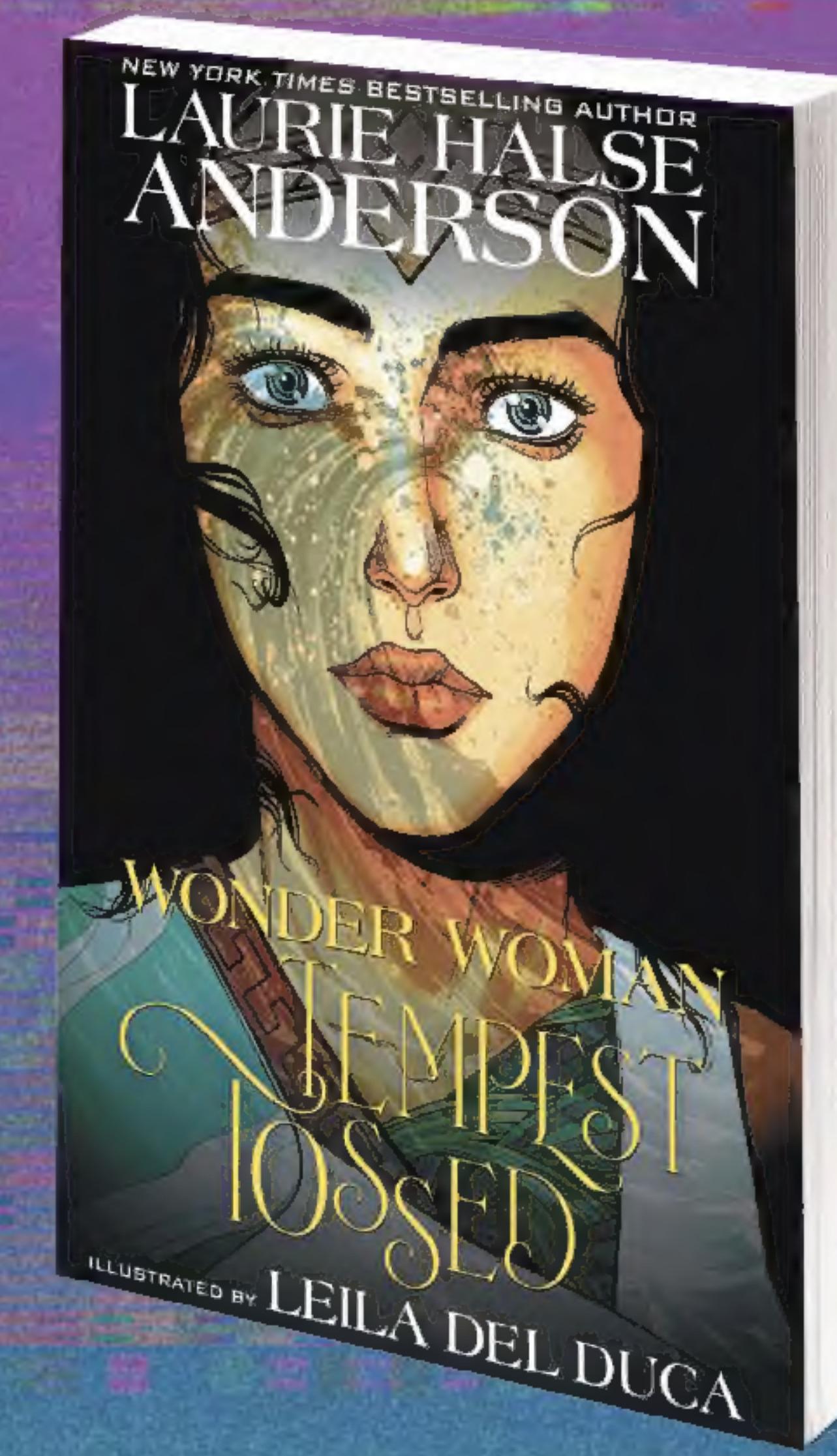
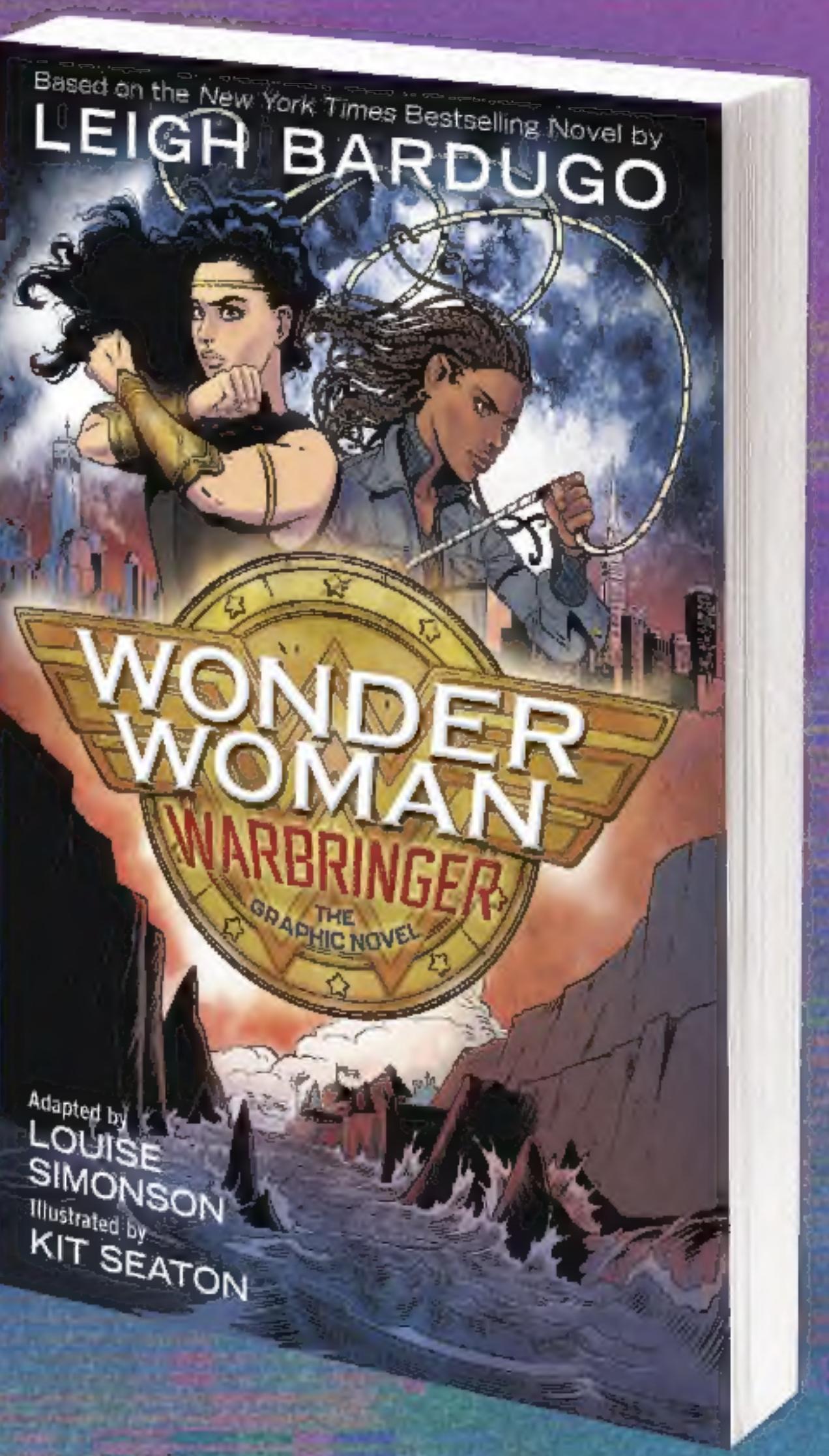
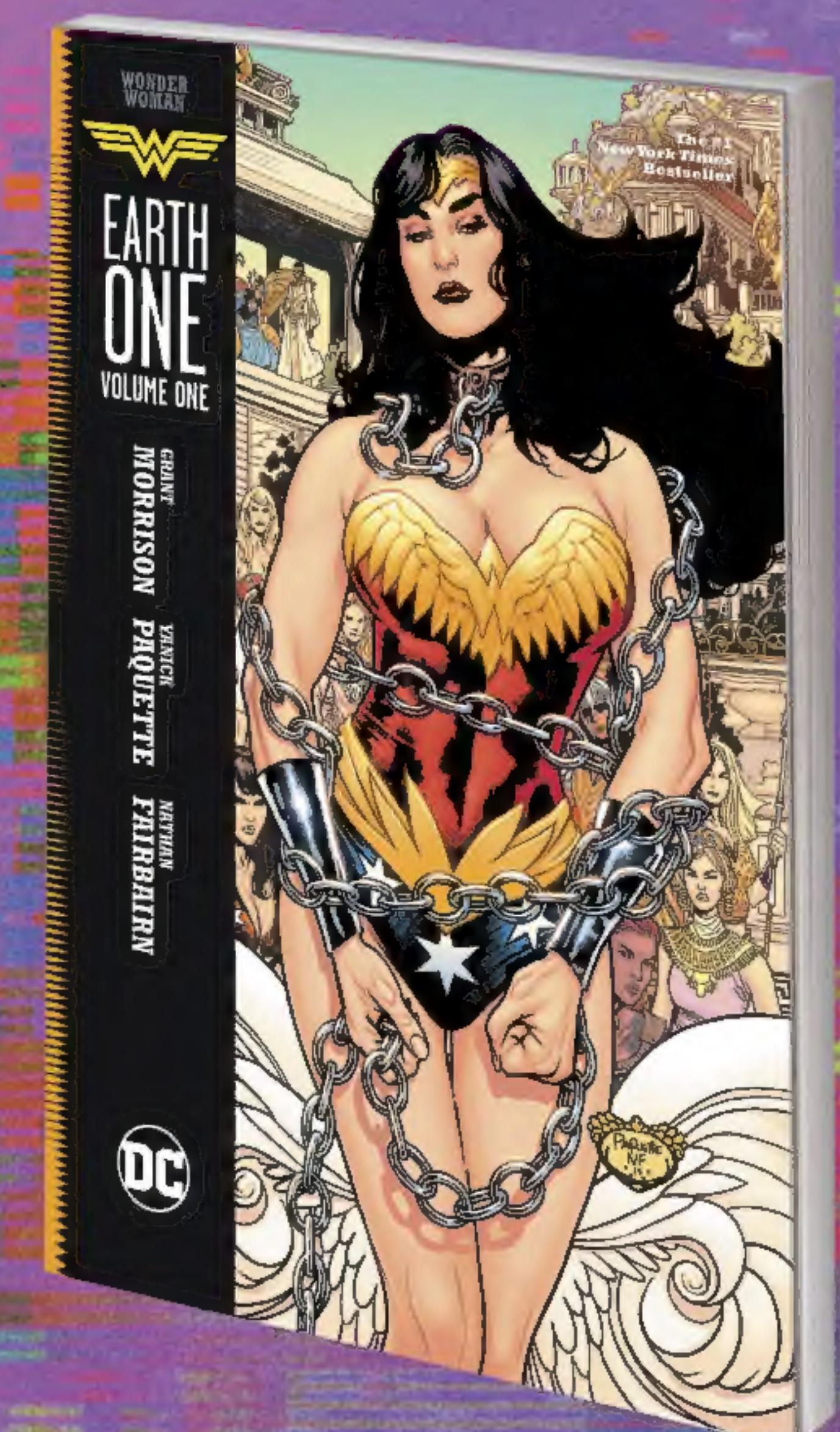
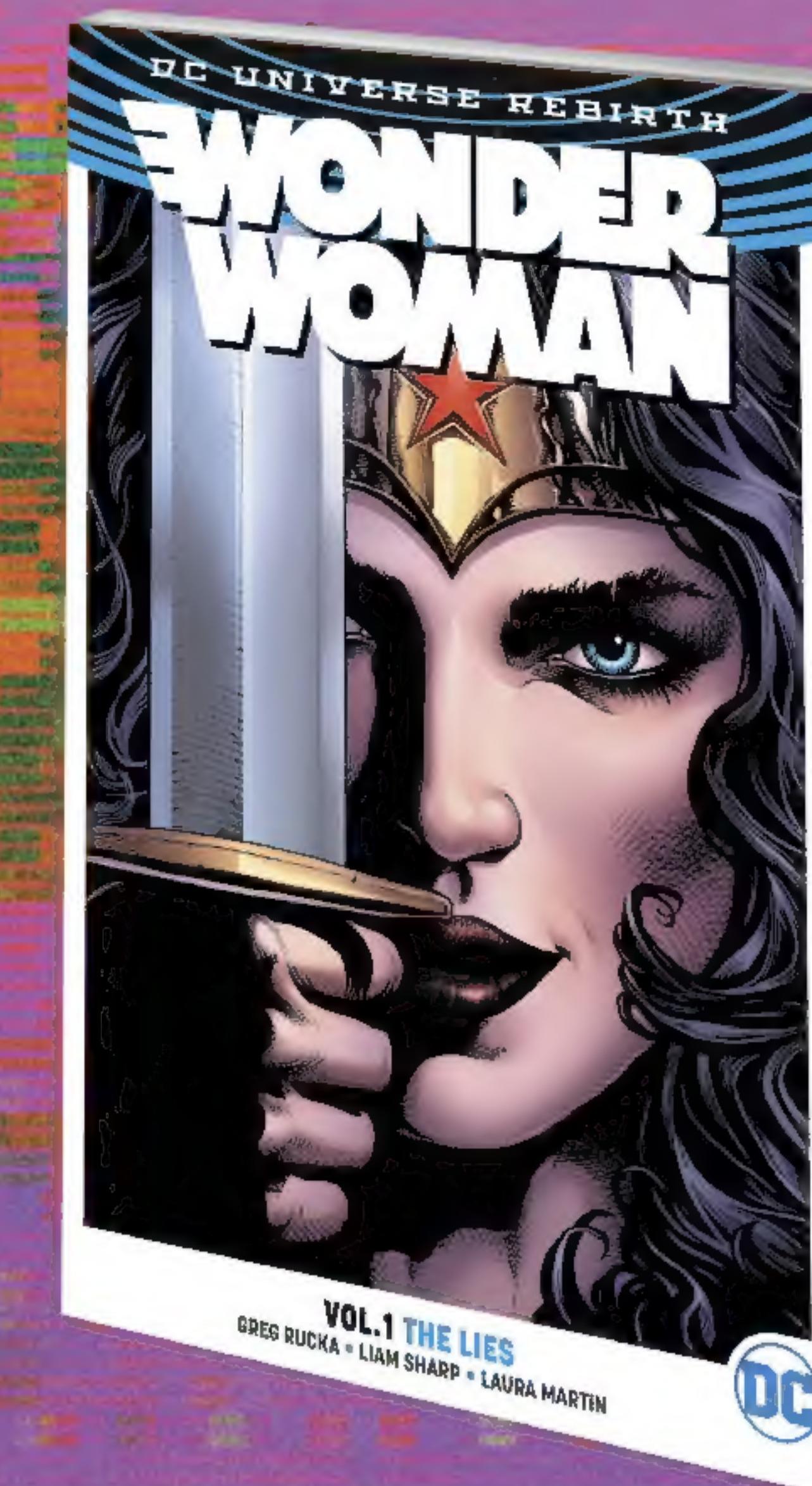
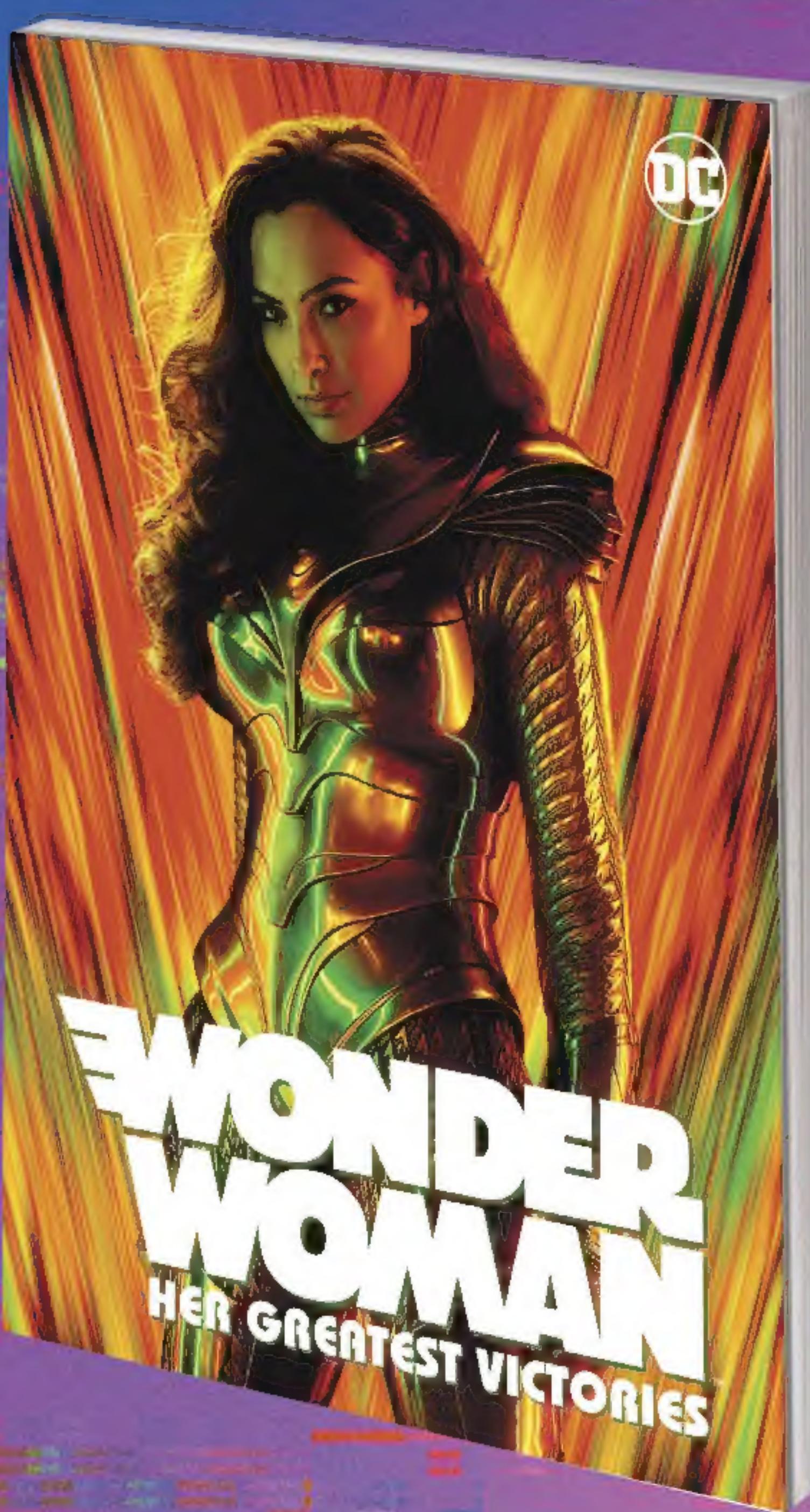








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DARK NIGHTS **DEATH METAL** SOUNDTRACK

INTERVIEW WITH TYLER BATES

Dark Nights: Death Metal truly rocks the way the title suggests thanks to Tyler Bates. For those who don't know, Bates has produced soundtracks for movies like *300* and *John Wick*.



So, in partnership with Loma Vista Recordings, the musician and composer has executive produced a soundtrack for *Death Metal* featuring artists including Marilyn Manson, Rise Against, Chelsea Wolfe, and Denzel Curry plus an original score showcasing dialogue from the series.

DC Nation talked with Bates about turning up the volume on *Dark Nights: Death Metal*.

What is it about the work of Scott Snyder and Greg Capullo that you find musically inspiring?

The tone of how Scott writes the DC characters is an evolution to how they have been framed in past DC comics and movies alike. I am being introduced to aspects of these classic characters for the first time, which is fun and exciting. The perspective, detail, and color choices of Greg's illustrations are incredibly evocative.

Scott and Greg inspired me to create music that is a departure from what you might anticipate. No wild idea is off the table! And more than ever, it feels good to be part of something that is the highest echelon of the genre.

How did you approach creating the score and working with the voice actors?

I'm sculpting the sound and music to support and complement the distinct vocal performances each person contributes to this series. I'm aspiring to create the essence of an old radio show, but with a dark and progressive sound that I imagine would register as a sign of the Apocalypse, had someone heard anything like this at the time these characters were first born.

I've encouraged each voice actor to create their own interpretation of the characters. We have Andy Biersack of Black Veil Brides voicing Batman, David Hasselhoff as Superman, and the list goes on.

What was your strategy in selecting artists for the soundtrack?

My prerequisite: everyone has to love the comics and the characters. [Laughs] I feel that the only way to create this soundtrack and animatic series is to approach it with complete authenticity. Every song on the soundtrack is directly inspired by *Dark Nights: Death Metal*.

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